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**Government Reservations Over 'Marshall Plan'
Proposal for Philippines**

42000335 Sydney *THE AUSTRALIAN* in English
20 Apr 88 p 6

[Article by Gwen Robinson]

[Excerpts] Australia has expressed reservations about United States proposals for a multilateral aid plan for the Philippines, supported by the Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Lee, and US congressmen.

Washington is enthusiastic, but officials at Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade feel the proposal, which coincides with talks on the future of US military bases in the Philippines, could have an adverse impact.

Drawbacks

They say such a large injection of cash into the economy may diminish Manila's need for financial compensation for US bases, a feeling echoed by some Asian countries.

Mr Lee says the bases are essential to counter the Soviet Union's military build-up in the region.

He has also warned against a Japanese military escalation, saying the US bases would negate the need for Tokyo to adopt a role as the region's military superpower.

The plan is still at an informal stage, but the Australian Government has already examined it closely and found several drawbacks.

The plan would detract from Australia's own bilateral aid effort.

Although contributions would require extra funds, foreign affairs officials say some finance would have to be taken from aid budget for the Philippines, which would dilute the bilateral assistance.

The department also says an aid package already exists, with commitments having been made by Australia, Japan and the US

The capacity of the Philippines to absorb additional funds is also questionable. Even now Manila has failed to properly use existing aid.

Figures released this year show more than \$3 billion in foreign aid commitments has not been used properly.

No guidelines have been set on how to deploy aid under Mr Lee's plan, although some countries believe it should be used exclusively to alleviate the \$23 billion foreign debt.

Mr Lee says that if such a mini-Marshall plan is not under way before President Reagan's term ends in November, it will take at least another year to get it started.

The Philippines President, Mrs Aquino, will be four years into her six-year term, and that could be too late, Mr Lee warns.

/9274

Grant From Japan for Infrastructure
42000330d Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 12 Apr 88 p 1

[Text] Rangoon, 11 April—Deputy Minister for Planning & Finance U Nyunt Maung and Ambassador of Japan to Burma Mr Hiroshi Ohtaka exchanged and signed Notes concerning a grant of Yen 1,100 million (about K53.49 million) to be provided to the Government of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma by the Government of Japan for the fiscal year 1987-88, in the meeting hall of the Ministry of Planning & Finance this morning.

The grant is meant for procurement of steel bars, galvanized iron sheets, angle irons and steel sheets to be used for the construction of schools, hospitals, highway bridges, houses for low income people and other public facilities and also to be distributed as construction materials to co-operative societies and people affected by natural disasters.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Planning & Finance U Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Saw Hlaing, Deputy Minister for Trade Col Tin Gyi, Deputy Minister for Co-operatives Dr Chit, Deputy Minister for Mines U Kyaw Za, Deputy Minister for Transport & Communications U Tin Maung, officials of the Embassy of Japan and representatives of the Burmese agencies concerned.

07310

Paper Reports on 1988-1989 Economic Committee Meeting
42000330b Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 9 Apr 88 p 1

[Text] Rangoon, 8 April—A co-ordination meeting in connection with the implementation of yearly plan for 1988-89, the third year of the Fifth Four-Year Plan, was held between the Economic Co-ordination Committee of the Council of Ministers and the chairmen of the State/Division People's Council Executive Committees at the meeting hall of the Office of the Council of Ministers at 9 am today.

Present at the meeting were Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha, Chairman of the Economic Co-ordination Committee of the Council of Ministers, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning & Finance Thura U Tun Tin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Thura U Kyaw Htin, Ministers who are members of the Economic Co-ordination Committee of the Council of Ministers, Deputy Ministers, the chairmen of the State/Division People's Council Executive Committees, heads of department and officials concerned.

Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha, Chairman of the Economic Co-ordination Committee of the Council of Ministers, delivered an address. He said that the present

meeting was being held to co-ordinate measures for implementing the 1988-89 annual plan by the respective States and Divisions beginning 1 April 1988 as they were approved and enacted by the sixth session of the Fourth Pyithu Hluttaw. He said that according to the Law on the Targets of Production and Services of the 1988-89 Economic Plan which was approved and enacted by the Pyithu Hluttaw, specific duties were assigned to the responsible organizations to implement the economic plan. He stressed the need for the organizations concerned to make concerted efforts under the leadership of the Party to implement the economic plan proposals concerned by organizational and administrative means.

The Prime Minister pointed out that the target for the growth of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was fixed at 2.3 per cent and urged one and all to make all-out efforts to achieve this target as it was fixed on the basis of the actual conditions for implementing it. He also spoke on the need to collect land revenues and water and irrigation tax according to the targets, to disburse cultivation loans on time and to recover cultivation loans in full by drawing up plans beforehand. In conclusion, he called upon one and all to make efforts to cultivate paddy, oil-seed crops and pulses and beans for self-sufficiency in the respective regions and to export the surplus.

Next, the chairmen of the State/Division People's Council Executive Committees discussed matters on implementation of the economic plan proposals and the Ministers who are members of the Economic Co-ordination Committee of the Council of Ministers took part in the discussions and gave replies.

The Prime Minister then delivered the concluding speech and the meeting ended at noon.

07310

Editorial on Armed Services' Training, Responsibilities
42000330c Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 11 Apr 88 p 4

[Text] The passing-out parade of the 29th batch of cadets of the Defence Services Academy was held at the Academy in Maymyo recently, Chief of Staff of the Defence Services General Saw Maung took the salute and delivered a speech.

He said that the aim of conducting military and academic studies at the Academy was to turn out Tatmadaw officers fully equipped with physical and mental abilities, that since every effort made by the cadets will reflect the dignity of the State and the Tatmadaw, they are to shoulder their duties and responsibilities with zeal and courage and that they are to strive their best to become good and able leaders armed with the military, organizational and administrative capabilities while serving the interests of the people.

Tatmadaw members of today are responsible to discharge dual tasks—the national defence tasks and that of establishing a socialist society. The Academy has done all its can to enable the cadets to be capable of performing these duties. In performing their respective duties, the graduates are required to make every effort for ensuring the people's participation in the constructive endeavors. They should strive to win the love and respect of the people by observing the traditional culture and customs of the indigenous people; by safeguarding the lives and properties of the people and by always striving hard to further consolidate national unity according to the motto, "Fight while organizing and organize while fighting".

At the same time, they are to build the strength of the Tatmadaw. In doing so, the spirit of comradeship is indispensable. By nurturing the spirit of comradeship, they will surely invigorate their spirit of devotion to the Tatmadaw as well as their patriotism. We believe the graduates of the Academy will strive to become good and able leaders of the Tatmadaw while reinforcing their intellectual and physical attainments through industry, tenacity and sagacity.

07310

Insurgents Return to Tatmadaw Camps
42000330a Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 7 Apr 88 p 4

[Text] Rangoon, 6 April—Repenting their past misdeeds, insurgents of various groups returned to legal fold at various Tatmadaw camps bringing in arms and ammunition.

Pte Kyan La Hu of No 2 Company of No 083 battalion of Burma Communist Party gave himself up at the Kholan camp in the Eastern Command area, bringing in an M 20 pistol; section commander Argot of No 5 battalion of No 9 brigade in the No 815 military region surrendered to the point 4422 camp bringing in an M 22 automatic rifle; village armed man Kya-U of Nayanwe village returned to legal fold at the Kyet-u-taung camp; platoon commander Aung Naing, section commander Sandrew and pte Kyaw Hein of the Karennei insurgent group No 4 column gave themselves up at the Mawchi camp bringing together with them two M 16 automatic rifles and one AK 47 automatic rifle; and pte Kya Hti of Lahu insurgent group surrendered to the Maingpyin camp bringing in an M 21 automatic rifle.

In the North-East Command are, pte Marla of No 4048 battalion of BCP gave himself up at the Mongpaw camp bringing together with him an M 21 automatic rifle; "Tin Aung (a) Tha Maung (a) Tun Cho (a) Saing Ngan, Maing Wa township committee secretary, gave himself up at the Muse camp bringing in an M 21 automatic rifle; pte Tun Hla and Ei Tun of the No 3 Brigade of the SSA insurgent group surrendered to the Pansakhan camp bringing in two M 21 automatic rifles.

In the Northern Command area, pte Myint Swe (a) In Khun Yaw of the KIA insurgent group central headquarters gave himself up at the Naphaw camp bringing in an M 20 pistol; pte Ma Gawng Gam, at Myitkyina camp; pte THan Hla of No 1 company of No 5 Regiment surrendered to Shwegu camp; saboteurs Maung Maung and Tin Ngwe from the No 3 Brigade gave themselves up at the Bhamo camp; and pte Maru Naw Kwe and Latawng Sinwa Naw of the No 5 company of the No 252 battalion surrendered to the Kathanyang camp bringing together with them two BA 63 automatic rifles.

07310

French Envoy on Possibility of Reduced Aid to Jakarta

*42000337a Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 27 Apr 88 pp A1, A2*

[Text] Jakarta, 27 Apr (ANTARA)—The French government will possibly have to reduce its financial aid through the Inter-governmental Groups on Indonesia (IGGI).

However, the decreasing aid does not necessarily mean that the country will have to also reduce its attention to Indonesia, French Ambassador to Indonesia Loic Hennekinne told this to ANTARA here Tuesday when asked to comment on his government's stand in the June IGGI meeting in the Hague, Holland.

Hennekinne estimated that the aid in the coming fiscal year would total around 200 million US dollars while in 1987/88 it reached around 265 million US dollars.

However, a 'surprise' is still possible," the ambassador who was accompanied by his first secretary Yves Charpentier, added.

The French government still pays lots of attention to Indonesia especially because the latter is facing many financial problems due to the sharp drop of the oil price on the international market.

However, he also said that Indonesia apparently has been able to manage its economy quite successfully so that it does not have to suffer from a "deep crisis."

Asked on reasons behind "the declining amount of aid, Ambassador Hennekinne said that it was caused by the French government's budget which also forced it to limit its expenditures in various sectors.

Although the French Ambassador said something about declining aid, he also stated that discussions with the Indonesian National Development Planning Board (Bappenas) will continue.

/9274

Japan's Indonesian Oil Imports Up
*42000329e Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 24 Apr 88 p A3*

[Excerpt] Tokyo, 23 Apr (ANTARA)—Japan's oil imports from Indonesia in the 1987 fiscal year, which ended on March 31, 1988, indicated an increase of 8.7 percent over those in the previous fiscal year, the Japanese Government announced here Friday.

/9274

KADIN To Participate in Taipei Import Fair

*42000329d Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 21 Apr 88 pp A7, A8*

[Text] Jakarta, 21 Apr (ANTARA)—To boost economic and trade cooperation with Taiwan, the Indonesian chamber of commerce and industry (KADIN Indonesia) will send a mission to participate in the Taipei Import Fair'88 (TIF'88) to be held in Taipei, Taiwan.

This was disclosed by the vice chairman of the Indonesia-Taiwan Trade Committee of KADIN Indonesia, Hoedhiono Kadarisman to the press here Thursday.

Indonesia's participation is of great importance in the efforts to boost non-oil/gas commodity exports in view of Taiwan's substantial demand for Indonesian commodities for its own requirement as well as for re-export to other countries, such as the United States and the countries of the European Economic Community (EEC).

The chairman of the Indonesia-Taiwan Trade Committee of Kadin Indonesia, Hakim Thalib, explained that the balance of trade between Indonesia and Taiwan in the last three years has been in favour of Taiwan, with the exception of 1985 when it recorded a surplus of US\$63 million in favour of Indonesia.

The balance of trade between the two countries in 1984 recorded a surplus in favour of Taiwan of US\$64.2 million, so was the balance of trade in 1986 which recorded a surplus of US\$92.4 million in favour of Taiwan.

In the period from January through July 1987 Indonesia suffered a deficit US\$36.9 million in its trade balance with Taiwan.

/9274

Aquino Expresses Appreciation for Country's Stand on Moro Issue

*42000329b Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 8 Apr 88 p A3*

[Text] Jakarta, 7 Apr (ANTARA)—Philippine President Corazon Aquino has expressed appreciation for Indonesia's understanding with regard to the Moro problem in Southern Philippines, as displayed by the Indonesian delegation to the ministerial conference of the Islamic Conference Organisation in Amman, Jordan, last month.

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas upon arrive back here Thursday afternoon after a four-day marathon tour of five ASEAN member countries, said President Aquino made the statement to him when he was making a courtesy call at the Malacanang Palace in Manila Wednesday.

In the ICO, of which Indonesia is member, conference, March 21-25, the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), based in the Southern Philippines under the command of Nur Misuari, demanded ICO to accept it as member. ICO rejected the request as it did not represent any country, and ICO saw the matter as a domestic affair of the Philippines, which is also a stand Indonesia has adopted so far.

/9274

Official Cites Increase in Foreign Investments
42130111c Jakarta SUARA KARYA in Indonesian
8 Apr 88 p 4

[Text] Foreign investment plans in the first 3 months of this year have jumped far ahead of the level of investments planned within the 1987 Foreign Capital Investments (PMA) program. Achmad Az, deputy for planning and promotion of the Capital Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM), made this statement in welcoming an investment mission from California yesterday.

A recapitulation of investment plans, especially within the PMA during the first 3 months of 1987 [as published], showed 39 new projects and 10 expanded projects with a total value of \$1,805 million. If this is compared with \$1,468 million, the total level of foreign investments in 1987, the number of requests for foreign investments which the BKPM has approved in the first 3 months of this year points to good prospects for foreign investment in Indonesia in the years ahead.

Achmad Az did not go into details about the foreign projects which the BKPM had approved during the first 3 months of this year nor the reasons for the recent jump in foreign interest in capital investment in Indonesia. However, as is well known, the 141 projects with a value of \$1,468 million which the BKPM approved last year is the highest number ever reached. In 1986 eighty-eight new and expanded PMA project plans with a value of \$826 million were approved.

Between the time foreign investment laws went into effect in 1977, said Achmad Az, and the end of March 1988 a total of 971 PMA investments had been approved with a value of about \$18,774 million. "These figures and values are in addition to investment in oil and natural gas and include investment in various service areas, such as banking, insurance and leasing companies," he continued.

Besides the California investment mission, plans are for two similar missions from England and Denmark to visit Indonesia in the middle of this month.

09846

Exports to Netherlands Increasing

42000329a Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English
20 Apr 88 p 6

[Text] Indonesia's exports to the Netherlands have continued to go up over the past several years. According to data obtained from the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS), the export value reached US\$265 million in 1982, US\$289 million in 1983, US\$332 million in 1984, US\$392 million in 1985, US\$453 million in 1986 and US\$416 million in the first 11 months of 1987.

The data shows Indonesia's exports of non-oil/gas commodities to the Netherlands have kept growing, while the supply of gas/oil to that country remains small.

Indonesia's imports of commodities from that West European country were worth US\$185 million in 1982, US\$257 million in 1983, US\$266 million in 1984, US\$215 million in 1985, US\$189 million in 1986 and US\$260 million in the first 11 months of 1987.

/9274

1987 Export Volume Drops, Value Up

42000329c Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 12 Apr 88 pp A1, A2

[Text] Jakarta, 11 Apr (ANTARA)—Indonesia's total exports from the oil and nonoil sectors in 1987 dropped by 9.35 percent compared to 1986, but there had been an increase in value by 15.74 percent.

The Ministry of Industry here disclosed Monday that the 1986 export volume reached 148,093,900 tons, which however dropped to 134,249,400 tons in 1987.

In 1986, Indonesia's total exports stood at US\$14,805 million, but in 1987 the value went up to US\$17,135.6 million.

Indonesia's 1987 crude oil exports dropped in volume by 11.97 percent compared with the performance in 1987, while the volume of oil and gas increased by 18.90 percent and 8.49 percent, respectively.

In terms of value, only the export of natural gas dropped in 1987, namely by 13.56 percent, while those of crude oil and oil products increased respectively 9.73 percent and 23 percent.

As a whole, however, the volume of oil exports dropped by 3.80 percent compared with 1986, while in terms of value there had been an increase of 3.37 percent.

A similar situation affected the nonoil sector in 1987, where the volume dropped 14.27 percent, but increased by 31.42 percent in value.

/9274

Industry Ministry Reports Increase in Industrial Product Exports

4213011e Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 8 Apr 88 pp 1, 8

[Text] Industrial product exports in 1987 amounted to more than \$6.7 billion, a 46.9 percent increase over the 1986 figures. Minister of Industry Engr Hartarto made this statement at the Bina Graha [president's residence] yesterday after he and Engr T. Ariwibowo, junior minister for industry, had reported to President Soeharto.

Besides pointing out this encouraging increase, Minister Hartarto said that more and more commodities were being exported. These include the products of light industry, such as brooms, brown sugar and melinjo chips as well as the products of industries which use sophisticated technology, such as iron and steel products, pressure tanks, reactors and automobiles.

Hartarto said that according to statistics from the Central Bureau of Statistics the value of processed industrial product exports in 1987 was more than \$6,085 billion, an increase of 50.4 percent over the previous year. In 1986 those exports amounted to \$4,044 billion.

Primary industrial product exports reached more than \$643.8 million, an increase of 20.3 percent.

In the area of processed commodity exports, the minister said, the greatest increase came in small industries, amounting to a total value of more than \$615.4 million, and an increase of 91.1 percent. Next were various industries with a value of more than \$4.6 billion, an increase of 50.5 percent. Finally there were the basic chemical industries, which increased by 32.4 percent to a total of \$375.9 million and the machine and basic metal industries, which increased by 28.6 percent to a total of more than \$479 million.

Hartarto said that industrial product exports had thereby increased to 78.3 percent of nonoil exports or 39.3 of Indonesia's total exports.

09846

Abolition of Procurement Contract Control Team Praised

4213011a Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 31 Mar 88 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] The government's determination to abolish the procurement contract control team, set up by presidential decision 10/1980, which was replaced by presidential decision 6 of 1988 and presidential instruction 1/88, thereby giving greater authority to departments down as far as the BUMN [State-owned Enterprise Board] and the BUMD [Provincially-owned Enterprise Board] level, was considered to be the result of the government's increased awareness of the significance and goals of national efficiency.

Dr Sukamdani S. Gitosardjono, general chairman of KADIN [Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry], stated this to PEMBARUAN in Jakarta this morning in response to presidential decision 6/1988, which is concerned with new policies rescinding various regulations for the procurement of goods and services.

Drs Moerdiono, minister/state secretary, and Drs Radius Prawiro, coordinating minister for economy, finance and industry and development oversight, announced that policy yesterday afternoon.

Sukamdani said that by issuing presidential decision 6/1988 early in the Fifth Development Cabinet the government is showing not only its determination to continue the development process and to carry out a consistent policy of deregulation and debureaucratization but more importantly is showing that it really wishes to point to a much more mature government approach to the tasks and responsibilities with which it has been entrusted.

"This clearly shows the government's increased maturity in the broadest sense, not just in the quality of its work but also in its way of thinking about how to carry out national development, especially in the form of providing direct services to the business community by more efficiently and effectively cutting the links in the bureaucratic chain," said Sukamdani, the head of Sahid Group, Inc.

He explained that this presidential decision also has broad implications for improvements in the way the state budget is allocated to the government's various agencies and departments. It also means that the trust and responsibility given to departments and subdepartments points to their ability to shoulder the burden of procuring their respective needs in the framework of national efficiency.

Not a Distribution of the Wealth

In addition, granting this authority to government agencies points to a decentralization of procurement of goods and equipment and a decentralization of power and responsibility, which can be used to economize so as to obtain satisfactory goods and services. "So, don't think of it as a distribution of the wealth because it was previously handled by the State Secretariat. But government agencies themselves should not be overjoyed in a material way," he said without explaining what he meant by material happiness.

A Fresh Breeze

Meanwhile, in response to questions from PEMBARUAN, Amirudin, general deputy chairman of the Indonesian National Importers Association (GINSI), said this morning that the new policies are a fresh breeze for the business community because they will provide opportunities for the future development of business.

He said that on the whole the new policies had been welcomed by the importers in GINSI. It will mean that the procurement of goods, formerly in a single department, will now be spread out to various agencies and departments.

He said that the effect will certainly be that the procurement of goods will, as hoped, run smoothly and that in turn business will be more active.

In this connection he said again that the new policies are a fresh breeze for business in particular and for the Indonesian economy in general. The policies will, in turn, have the effect of opening up broader employment opportunities in the future.

Drs Elias L. Tobing, general chairman of the Suppliers and Distributors Association, told PEMBARUAN this morning that presidential instruction I/1988 is good, in general, for the economically weaker segment of society.

These policies will bring about an efficiency of time which has been lacking up to now. He added that while investigations carried out by the team set up by the presidential decision take months the prices of the goods go up.

He said that restoring the power of procurement to the departments means that procurement will be faster. In addition, the departments know the technical requirements for the goods to be bid on.

09846

Outgoing Minister Comments on Unemployment, Job Opportunities
42130111d Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
2 Apr 88 p 3

[Text] At the end of 1987 there were 1.5 million known unemployed people in Indonesia, and this figure is increasing at the rate of 100,000 a year. The increase in the number of unemployed is the result of a worldwide economic recession, and the drop in crude oil prices on the world market. As a result, national economic growth during PELITA [5-Year Development Plan] IV has only been on the average 3.8 percent a year instead of the 5 percent a year targeted.

Former Minister of Manpower Sudomo made these statements last Thursday [31 March] in his speech at the ceremony transferring his position to his successor Cosmas Batubara at departmental offices.

Sudomo did not explain the parameters used for determining unemployment. He only said that during PELITA IV there has been a relatively high growth rate in job opportunities, 3.9 percent a year, approaching the

4 percent a year growth rate in the size of the work force. "The government has not yet succeeded in broadening job opportunities because this is beyond our power," he said.

09846

MP on Lack of Interest in Stock Market
42000336e Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 26 Apr 88 pp A5, A6

[Text] Jakarta, 26 Apr (ANTARA)—Money owners don't want to put their money into the stock market because the Indonesian stock market is still relatively new, according to a member of parliament.

Time deposits are more beneficial to them, Hamzah Haz, the vice chairman of the budget commission, told to ANTARA here Monday.

Hamzah Haz said that perhaps the idea of imposing a tax on deposit interests is only a move to encourage the depositors to put their money into the stock market to develop the market.

It is good if the money owners would like to do it and it is also necessary for the government to give support to them, he said.

It is said in the 1988 National Policy Guidelines that the stock market will be popularized during the current Fifth National Development Plan, he added.

Putting money into the stock market helps to activate the economy, according to Hamzah Haz.

Therefore, he suggested that the government should encourage the people to do it instead of thinking about imposing a tax on deposit interests. This is more productive, he said.

Hamzah Haz warned the government to be careful if it plans to impose a tax on deposit interests.

"In principle I agree with a tax imposition on deposit interests because the law for it is there but because of the current economic condition the move might have an unexpected impact like a capital flight," he said.

For this reason he suggested that the government should create a more alluring climate for capital investment in the economically productive sectors.

He hope that banks would also be more progressive in offering their credit. In principle, they must exert their efforts to the maximum to utilize their deposit funds for real activities that will promote economic growth.

He said that the problem now is that the banks still have a very high rate of credit interest which discourages money owners from putting their funds into the stock market.

/9274

Portion of Fertilizer Distributed Through Co-Ops Increased

42000336b Jakarta *BUSINESS NEWS in English*
22 Apr 88 p 3

[Text] The portion of the fertilizer supply entrusted to the village unit cooperatives (KUDs) has since the beginning of this month been increased to 54 percent of the total fertilizer supply of about 5 million tons a year from only 22 percent previously.

Minister of Agriculture Ir Wardoyo has admitted, however, that the ability of KUDs to handle the supply of fertilizer is still limited. Therefore, the distribution of fertilizer to the farmers is unsmooth and such a condition can hamper the effort to increase food production, the minister said when he installed Ir Nusyirwan Zen as secretary general of the Agriculture Department and Drh Soehadji as director general of animal husbandry here recently.

The increase in the portion of the national supply of fertilizer entrusted to KUDs is aimed at stepping up the role of these cooperatives in increasing food production and encouraging them to improve their ability, according to Wardoyo.

The share of the private side in handling the supply of fertilizer in the country has been reduced from 50 percent to only 15 percent, because fertilizer supply through private companies has so far been stagnant.

The performance of KUDs and private companies in serving fertilizer supply is continuously monitored. The government has assigned PT Pertani, state enterprise operating in the agricultural sector, to step up its role in facilitating the supply of fertilizer.

/9274

Pertamina Official Predicts More Investment, Contracts

42000337b Jakarta *ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN*
in English 28 Apr 88 p A2

[Text] Jakarta, 27 Apr (ANTARA)—Foreign oil contracts operating in Indonesia will increase their investment by US\$2.8 billion and there will be at least four more producing sharing contracts to be signed this year, an official said here Wednesday.

Head of the Coordinating Agency for Foreign Oil Contractors (BKKA) at the state-owned oil company of PT Pertamina Djoermadi Djokardi told the press that the

increase of the investment and the signing of new contracts indicates that the oil sector in Indonesia is still an interesting business for foreign oil companies.

Djoermadi was speaking after a meeting with Vice President Sudharmono in which he reported his duties.

/9274

MP: Not Right Time for Taxing Bank Deposit Interest

42000336c Jakarta *ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN*
in English 19 Apr 88 pp A3, A4

[Text] Jakarta, 19 Apr (ANTARA)—A parliament member said Monday that now is not the right time for imposing tax on deposit interest because the domestic economic situation still requires increased deposits from the people.

He admitted that the new Tax Law of 1983 does not state the impossibility of imposing tax on deposit interest but the time for it has not yet come.

Rivai Siata, the vice chairman for the economic affairs of the ruling Golkar, said that tax imposition on deposit interests could again urge capital flights.

"This situation must be avoided in view of the psychological impact it will present," he said.

The imposition of tax on deposit interests could only be possible if the public's economic and psychological conditions have been steady, he said.

Rivai Siata admitted that the amount of time deposits in 1987 had increased considerably.

From January through October they totalled Rp3,408 billion, an increase of 31.3 percent compared to that of the same period in 1986.

The amount of credits up to December 1987 was recorded at Rp33 trillion up by Rp4.2 trillion compared to that of 1986.

/9274

BUSINESS NEWS Views Planned Tax on Bank Deposit Interest

42000336a Jakarta *BUSINESS NEWS in English*
20 Apr 88 p 2

[Editorial: "Deposit Interest Is Subject to Tax?"]

[Text] The high target of tax receipts in the State Budget (APBN) of 1988/89 (Rp 9.2 trillion) has of late revived the possibility of the government imposing tax on time deposit interest, which has so far been suspended. It is strongly rumoured that the government has prepared relevant regulations, though for the moment such

rumours a bit slacken in connection with the change of the cabinet. But over the last few weeks the problem has again become topical. For instance, the Group of Tax Observers Saturday presented a number of speakers who all concluded that at present the time is opportune to lift the suspension of imposition of tax on time deposit interest. Their argument is among others that such a tax suspension makes tax imposition inconsistent, thus creating injustice. According to the speakers, this causes the public to become reluctant taxpayers. There is indeed the danger of depositors withdrawing their funds, but in the view of the speakers, this will only be "temporary" in nature. Similarly, the danger of fund owners buying dollars and depositing their funds abroad is slight because, according to them, only a few people have the access to such a possibility whereas the interest obtained from foreign currency deposits is far smaller, viz. around 7 percent compared with about 15 percent here. Though subject to tax, so the argument goes, rupiah deposit interest is still far higher.

Around the previous week, General Chairman of Kadin Indonesia Sukamdani Gitosardjono appealed that the government should be very cautious in abolishing the suspension of deposit interest tax imposition. Sukamdani just considers it most likely that depositors will withdraw their funds from banks so that there is contraction in funding by the banking system. Even in his view, the funds will most possibly be used to buy up foreign currencies so that the balance of payments and foreign exchange reserves will undergo heavy pressure, just at the time when both are now in a very critical situation.

The urge to end the suspension of deposit interest tax imposition among others comes from those in charge of developing the capital market, both the existing stock exchange and the new over-the-counter exchange. They argue that the capital market cannot compete as long as time deposit interest is untaxed while dividends obtained from shares and interest derived from bonds are taxed.

The imposition of tax on time deposit interest can be realised progressively. But the alternative to be chosen by the government if the tax suspension is indeed to be lifted, cannot yet be described.

The options in this context are:

- 1) deposit interest is subject to the minimum income tax rate of 15 percent as that imposed on honorariums, but this rate is final;
- 2) the tax imposed fully applied the PBDR rate of 20 percent, also final in nature;
- 3) tax is imposed according to the rate of 15 percent of 20 percent, but it is not final. For depositors with income worth above Rp 50 million per annum, the tax to be paid on deposit interest will be 35 percent. In practice the extra tax burden for them can even be higher than 35

percent, because many businessmen make use of the presence of time deposits as a means of tax relief. The time deposits are used as a guarantee to obtain credits from banks so that loan interest can be treated as cost and in this way their profit and tax are reduced.

This in fact justifies the argument on tax injustice arising from the suspension of deposit interest tax imposition. But it also means that the lifting of the tax suspension will imply a very big additional burden, possibly more than 40 percent of the deposit interest. The urge to withdraw deposits and shift to overseas deposits will thus become increasingly stronger.

Such a condition can be expected to arise as long as confidence in the government's economic policy is not yet restored as is the case at present. If the deposit interest tax suspension is supposed to be abolished, the government should wait until the confidence is regained. It is such restoration of confidence which is most urgent, and this can only be achieved if for instance, measures of deregulation, elimination of harmful monopolies, and other moves of the kind are carried out effectively. Therefore it is improper to say that the government's economic policy is "irrelevant" with regard to the taxing of time deposit interest. The problem does not take place in a "vacuum," but rather, it is closely related to the inseparable surrounding environment. One should not just be stunned by a neat system only, if in this way the balance of the real condition becomes disrupted. Let us imagine: how can the deposits worth around Rp 15 trillion be replaced by savings in stocks and bonds, though only 50 percent of the deposits are withdrawn?

/9274

Agriculture Minister Affirms Continuing Rice Fields Creation Program
42130111b Jakarta SUARA KARYA in Indonesian
4 Apr 88 pp 1, 11

[Text] The Department of Agriculture will continue its program of creating new rice fields and, at the same time, will continue its efforts to discover new technology in the area of rice cultivation. Besides anticipating that the increase in rice productivity will level off, this policy is also intended to guarantee future self-sufficiency in rice.

In an interview with SUARA KARYA in his office last week, Minister of Agriculture Engr. Wardoyo also emphasized the need to maintain land-use regulations in order to prevent the use of fertile land for nonagricultural purposes.

"The symptoms of leveling off rice-production increases have certainly arrived when they reach a certain point in time," said the minister.

Wardoyo had discussed this leveling off in February at a working meeting of Commission IV of the DPR-RI [Republic of Indonesia Parliament] when he was still

junior minister for food crops in the Fourth Development Cabinet. There was an 8 percent increase in rice production from 1983 to 1984. The following year, 1984-85, the increase fell to only 2.4 percent; in 1985-86 it fell to 1.78 percent, and in 1986-87 it was only 0.7 percent.

Not Very Successful

The minister admitted that some time ago there had been a failure to reach the target for creating new rice fields in the sense that only a very low number had been created. Under REPELITA [5-Year Development Plan] IV, plans were to create 350,000 hectares of new rice fields up to the middle of January 1988, but only 142,000 hectares were actually created. Under REPELITA III 170,000 hectares were created out of a planned total of 350,000 hectares.

The minister explained that the program to create new rice fields was not very successful partly because granting credit for the new rice fields is very slow, partly because the process of determining credit worthiness in the agrarian sector takes a long time and partly because of a shortage of workers in the areas where rice fields are being created since the farmers are working in the nonagricultural sector.

Another reason is that there has been a cut-back in the number of UPP's (Project Contractor Units) needed to create new rice fields. "We need to find the best possible solution to a number of these problems. Better coordination with the agencies involved is needed," said Wardoyo.

The minister said that steps to be taken include coordination with the Department of Public Works, especially in making irrigation channels available which are linked to the socioeconomic conditions of the local population. In addition, special attention should be given to whether the local population wants to create new rice fields.

"Let's not create new rice fields in an area where most of the local population grows coffee, for example. This will probably fail unless there are other sources of labor, such as transmigrants, in the area," said the minister.

Wardoyo said that in order to further the program for the creation of rice fields his department would suggest that UPT [Project Implementation Unit] workers who had been cut back for budgetary reasons be considered civil servants. Formerly a determination had been made that per-diem UPT workers should be considered civil servants like PPL (Field Agriculture Instructors) on condition that they not be allowed to work on the original UPT project again. In other words, the ones who are competent must be willing to work anywhere in accordance with their PPL status.

The minister said that the suggestion had been made that HUT [anniversary] workers would become PPL civil servants and put to work on creating rice fields. In this way it is hoped that these UPT workers will speed up the creation of new rice fields, especially by leading the farmers and workers in the areas where rice fields are being created. It was stated that since 1985-86 the number of UPP workers had decreased from 124 to 24 because of budget cut-backs.

09846

Army Chief Defines Goals of Rural Civic Mission

4213011f Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian
12 Apr 88 p 12

[Excerpts] Army Gen Edi Sudrajat, Army chief of staff, said that ABRI's [Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia] rural civic mission was not merely an ABRI program but rather an integrated program involving all components of development, such as the appropriate government offices, ABRI and the people.

He made this statement to reporters in Bandung yesterday after attending a plenary evaluation meeting on ABRI's rural civic mission, which was held for two days at PUSBANGSISOP [Operations System Development Center] in Hegarmanah, Bandung.

The four-star general said that the goals of ABRI's rural civic mission are to stimulate a desire and enthusiasm for development and to hasten the development process and its results so as to achieve Indonesian human development in accordance with Indonesian national ideals, i.e. to bring about a progressive, just and prosperous society, both materially and spiritually, based on PANCASILA [Five Principles of the Nation] and the 1945 constitution.

Chief of Staff General Sudrajat said, as stated in the program's goals, priority is given to the rural population. Because most Indonesians live in rural areas, ABRI's rural civic mission is carried out in the midst of village life.

ABRI's Participation

General Sudrajat said that ABRI's rural civic mission, which began in 1980, had been looked into very carefully from the earliest planning stages to its implementation stage. The rural civic mission is the realization of ABRI's active participation in national development, he said.

All of ABRI's ranks, as soldiers of the Sapta Marga [Seven Pledges] and the basic capital of national development, have taken part in efforts to increase the people's welfare, especially those who live in rural areas. In fact, this program has many positive advantages, he emphasized.

The general said that one positive advantage of ABRI's rural civic mission is to speed up government programs and increase village enthusiasm to become self-supporting. Another one is to encourage and bring about the people's participation in the development process.

Chief of Staff General Sudrajat said that the rural civic mission can also guarantee national stability and security because people feel that they are directly involved in the

development process. Besides putting development and its results on an equal footing, ABRI's rural civic mission is the reflection of the people's collective spirit in coming to grips cooperatively with the problems of development.

09846

Deputy Labor Minister Encourages Working in Singapore

*42050019e Kuala Lumpur NANYANG SIANG PAU
in Chinese 29 Mar 88 p 1*

[Excerpts] The phenomenon of Malaysians flowing into Singapore to seek employment is expected to lighten Malaysia's unemployment problem. Deputy Labor Minister Datuk Wan Abu Bakar pointed out today that if they can earn fair wages, Malaysian workers would be better off going to Singapore than being out of job here. After officiating at the opening ceremony of a course on leadership conducted by the Transportation Workers Union, the deputy minister told reporters that at any rate our workers should enter Singapore through proper channels in order to avoid trouble. He was commenting on press reports that the Singapore government has eased its restrictions on Malaysian citizens who wish to work in Singapore.

9300/9738

Editorial Welcomes Relaxed Singapore

Restrictions on Workers

*42050019d Kuala Lumpur NANYANG SIANG PAU
in Chinese 30 Mar 88 p 2*

[Editorial: "Singapore Eases Regulations for Malaysian Workers"]

[Text] The news coming from the other side of the causeway over the weekend, saying that Singapore has eased its regulations for Malaysians working in Singapore, has touched off interest and comments by all circles in our country, including cabinet ministers and labor union leaders. To our citizens, many of whom are hesitating at the crossroads and unemployed, this was joyous news indeed, a good opportunity for them to get some work and earn a living.

According to press reports, Singapore has relaxed the restrictions for Malaysian workers to get any kind of job, and as long as they hold a school diploma with passing grades in five subjects, they are entitled to obtain a 3-year work permit. This regulation is valid for Malaysian citizens only. Our country has always provided Singapore with the important labor needed, especially for heavy manual work, such as building construction, shipbuilding and manufacturing industry. Thanks to the close geographical, cultural and historical relationship between Malaysia and Singapore, the latter's special treatment of our workers is a logical and unsurprising move.

It is estimated that among Singapore's 100,000 foreign workers, Malaysians form the majority. At one time in the past, due to Singapore's policy shift and economic problems, our workers were laid off and repatriated to Malaysia. After their repatriation, thousands upon thousands of these workers suffered hard times, and yet the money they deposited into the accumulation fund in

Singapore was not refunded to tide over their difficulties. At that time, some people even suggested that we should not have sent our workers to Singapore in the first place and that our government should consider enacting a law to curb the outflow of our work force.

It has always been common practice for employers to hire and fire workers at will in accordance with their business requirements. When Singapore needs workers, it opens its doors, and when there is a glut of foreign workers, the authorities drive them away and out of the country. However, how to transfer or utilize the fund accumulated in government hands is a matter worth studying. According to report, at least 150,000 Malaysian workers have contributed to the accumulation fund in Singapore. It would be reasonable for the Singapore authorities to allow a freer utilization of the money belonging to repatriated Malaysian workers who have no intention of going back to Singapore.

The other day, Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat indicated that he would apprise our national top leadership of this problem of accumulation funds. As a matter of fact, the Singapore side has already revised its way for foreign workers to pay into this accumulation fund: from now on, certain categories of foreign workers need only to pay a workers tax similar to a head tax amounting to M\$170 per person per month, and they are exempted from paying any money into the accumulation fund. How this revision will affect our workers deserves our study to avoid any dispute similar to the question of accumulation money.

At any rate, at a time when our country is facing a serious unemployment problem, we welcome Singapore's measure to ease the rules on Malaysian workers, which can considerably relieve our unemployment burden. Although our national economy is turning for the better and signs are present for the inflow of foreign investment, the ranks of the unemployed have increased in number. This year's unemployment rate has grown to 9.4 percent, and 60,000 college graduates are still unable to get jobs. It is anticipated that by the year 1990, our unemployment rate will increase further to 10.1 percent, involving some 680,000 people. The deputy minister of labor, Datuk Wan Abu Bakar, is fully aware of this projection, and is encouraging our citizens to seek employment in Singapore.

According to another press report, Singapore retail and department stores are in need of thousands of employees. This new avenue of job opportunities will be useful to students who have just graduated from middle schools, and should be explored to the full. Difficulties are unavoidable, no matter where one works, whether in one's own country or overseas. But we should not refrain from doing something necessary for fear of a slight risk, nor suggest that our workers not go to Singapore. In addition, any suggestion for restricting our workers to sally forth in search of jobs through legal sanction is not a wise move, because this would violate the freedom and

rights of the people to choose their occupations. If a country can be developed to provide its own people with ample job opportunities at fair and reasonable wages, they will automatically prefer to stay put to leaving their native place.

9300/9738

Chinese Leader Notes Easing of Cultural Restrictions
42050019a Kuala Lumpur NANYANG SIANG PAU
28 Mar 88 p 3

[Text] Teo Kheng Liang, president of the Selangor Chinese Associations Council, said that in the wake of the All-Malaysia Chinese Associations Cultural Convention 5 years ago and its subsequent memorandum presented to the then minister of culture, youth and sports, the government has to a certain degree eased its cultural restrictions.

This, he said, can be seen from several phenomena, for example, incorporation of Chinese cultural programs into our National Day festivities and permission to burn firecrackers during the Lunar New Year period.

He added that to a certain degree the government has accepted the six fundamental viewpoints stipulated in the "Cultural Declaration" submitted to the authorities. He stressed, however, that although the present situation has improved in comparison with that before the memorandum was submitted, these changes are still far from their cultural objectives.

Mr Teo Kheng Liang made these remarks to reporters after attending a meeting to mark the fifth anniversary of the All-Malaysia Chinese Associations Cultural Convention.

He said that representatives of the convention presented the memorandum to Anwar Ibrahim, then minister of culture, youth and sports, in person and had a dialogue with him; thereafter, several informal talks were held between the Chinese and the authorities concerned.

He said that during their dialogue and contacts, the Chinese representatives stressed their opposition to unitarian culture and to the government's high-pressure methods in building up our national culture. He continued that the Chinese are planning on holding more similar dialogues with the authorities.

Mr Teo pointed out that during the past 5 years, whenever the Chinese organize a cultural entertainment program, they invariably invite their Malay brethren to take an active part for the purpose of cultural interflows.

Commenting on the recently-published government White Paper criticizing the Chinese Cultural Convention's resolutions, Mr Teo said that the Chinese are taking the criticism seriously and studying on how to make an appropriate response.

With regard to the assignment of non-Mandarin speaking teachers to senior posts in Chinese primary schools, Mr Teo said the matter has been resolved as follows: the positions of principal and the first and second vice principals of a national-type Chinese primary school, as well as the director of the afternoon classes, are all to be held by qualified Chinese-speaking teachers. The question that remains to be fought for is that the director for extracurricular activities should also be the hands of a qualified Chinese-speaking teacher.

Earlier, in his speech at the commemoration meeting, Mr Teo Kheng Liang called on the Chinese community to pay attention to the significance of the Chinese Cultural Convention anniversaries, energetically carryout cultural activities and enhance the cultural level of the Chinese community, in order to turn the Chinese Cultural Day on 27 March into a nationwide happy festival to be celebrated by all Chinese throughout Malaysia.

9300/9738

MCA Grassroots Leaders Criticized
42050019b Kuala Lumpur NANYANG SIANG PAU
in Chinese 30 Mar 88 p 5

[Text] Datuk Yap Pian Hon, leader of the MCA Youth Wing, criticized some MCA leaders at the grass-roots level for failing to set an example, which has led to an unsuccessful result in certain regions of MCA's first-phase campaign to solicit life members. He said that while the Chinese community and non-party personages are extending their helping hands to forestall the possible foreclosure of the MCA headquarters building, these grassroots leaders still adopt a cold and detached attitude, unable to play a leading role during the membership campaign and even refusing to become MCA life members themselves. Datuk Yap Pian Hon, a member of Selangor state assembly, made these remarks when a group of MCA parliamentarians and Selangor state assemblymen visited MCA's Pataling Jaya's regional office yesterday.

9300/9738

Former Marcos Officials Divided Over U.S. Bases
42000326e Quezon City MALAYA in English
29 Mar 88 p 5

[Article by Ellen T. Tordesillas]

[Text] It was an interesting study of two men, both members of the Marcos chorus during the pre-EDSA years, singing different tunes these days.

Former Prime Minister and Finance Minister Cesar Virata and former Justice Minister and Solicitor General Estelito Mendoza were both panelists in a symposium on US military bases sponsored by the Philippine Council for Foreign Relations last Saturday.

Mendoza, who once used his legal acumen to justify the imposition of martial law and defend a number of unpopular government projects like the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant was a delightful surprise.

His "notes on the issues which we must resolve in deciding whether the presence of US armed forces in the Philippines should be allowed after 1991," was Mendoza in one of his shining moments intelligent, sharp, and organized.

Some of the points he raised had been articulated before by political scientists. One of them in fact is contained in a Senate resolution by Senator Orlando Mercado—which is, that the constitution has left no option for President Aquino but to serve the US notice that the Philippines is terminating the military bases agreement now.

What was refreshing about Mendoza were his views about the role of the bases in the country's security.

Mendoza, who comes from Pampanga where Clark Air-base is, and who once participated in the 1979 MBA negotiations, raised some interesting points.

He said. "Should the Philippines find that the danger of external attack is not present or is not clear and substantial enough, or that it may be avoided or minimized by altering or adjusting the direction and conduct of its foreign relations, the presence of foreign military forces would hardly be justifiable. There is, however, the assertion that the contribution to regional security and to world peace of the presence of the United States armed forces in the Philippines is enough justification. Indeed, it is now clear that, from the US's viewpoint, the presence of US armed forces in the Philippines is principally part of its global and regional security strategy and only incidentally, for the defense of the Philippines.

"If this be the case, what we will then have to ask ourselves is whether making such a contribution to US global and security strategy is in the interest of the Philippines."

If Mendoza was enlightening, Virata was a disappointment.

One would think that, after extensive exposure to what we locals call "the outside world" as former prime minister and a minister of finance and now and that he is no longer in the suffocating circle of power, he would have liberal views about world policies.

But the Virata we heard last Saturday was still the Virata submerged in the doctrines of the "cold war."

Answering a question about chances of the Philippines getting financial aid from the Soviet Union in case the Americans leave the Philippines, Virata said the USSR is not an ideal source of financial aid as they themselves are having problems with their economy. He said that what the Soviets are offering are mostly technical assistance.

In his usual inscrutable manner, he narrated how they, the Marcos technocrats, then decided that instead of sending a team of Soviet mining engineers to Isabela to study the possible ties of a coal mine, they sent them to the remote Semirara Island, Antique where they could easily be watched.

The RP-USSR coal mine project, by the way never got underway.

Virata also said that, if the US bases were pulled out, the defense budget will have to increase by 25 per cent, as the government has to take care of external threat which is supposedly taken care of by the United States now.

Refuting Virata's argument, Mendoza gave a convincing analogy. When he was a government official, he needed armed bodyguards, but now that he is a private citizen, he has dispensed with the services of the security men and thus reducing his expenditures. He said there is nothing to protect him from at present, now that he is no longer with the government.

Translate that to the Philippines and the US bases. If there is no foreign base in this country, there will be no external threat and if the US bases were pulled out, there would be no necessity to increase our military budget.

Mendoza and Virata were part of the highly-controversial team sponsored by the Asia Foundation that went to Bodega Bay in San Francisco to give the Americans different Philippine perspectives on US bases.

Up law professor Purificacion Quisumbing said that the Americans were shocked over the views the team presented. The Americans reportedly asked, "Are you all radicals? Do al Filipinos share your views?"

Quisumbing said they had to tell their host that they are the "conservatives" and the activists were left at home.

Quisumbing noted that, in the exchange of views, it was evident that, while Filipinos were concerned about justice and injustices related to the bases, the Americans were more concerned about global strategy.

07310

Editorial Lauds Ramos Call for Full Access to U.S. Bases
42000333d Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 26 Apr 88 p 4

[Text] As commander of both Clark air base and Subic naval base, Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, then AFP chief of staff, was himself a victim of American policies of neither denying nor confirming the presence of U.S. nuclear devices on Philippine bases and barring Philippine authorities from certain secret areas where Americans have been allowed unhampered operations. These were some of the insults that the General had to take as commander of Philippine bases hosting U.S. facilities.

There are perceptions that General Ramos, compared to many civilian Filipino officials, must be more sympathetic to the presence of U.S. military facilities. It comes, therefore, as a pleasant surprise that the West Point-trained general, now the defense secretary, said yesterday that Philippine authorities must have access to those restricted U.S. base areas. Answering media questions at the *Kapihan* breakfast forum, the Secretary said the Philippine government must have access even to the so-called "cryptographic" message center where secret orders are processed, sent or received between U.S. warships, planes and the rest of the U.S. defense network. This "cryptographic" center is conceivably the place where coded orders involving attacks and secret military operations are received and relayed, making the Philippines vital to the warlike operations of U.S. forces.

Other secret areas could include underground chambers where missiles have reportedly been positioned. Whether or not these are nuclear-capable is debatable, considering the refusal of the U.S. government to either deny or confirm their existence.

When the Philippine panel in the ongoing Military Bases Agreement review recently raised the need for prior Philippine consent (and not mere consultation) for sensitive operations, the U.S. panel asked in effect why the Philippines seems to distrust the U.S.—to which the Philippine panel retorted that it is the U.S. that distrusts the host government.

The demand for access, which the Philippine panel is expected to push, is sure to spark a spirited debate, considering the touchy nature of the subject and its direct relevance to American security. The Philippine panel must be encouraged by the public statement of General Ramos whose views are presumed to reflect that of the Philippine military.

/9738

Columnist Cites 'Brilliant Performance' of Manglapus in Bases Review
42000334d Quezon City MALAYA in English 12 Apr 88 p 5

[Article by Ellen T. Tordesillas: "Thanks to the CIA"]

[Excerpt] The brilliant performance of Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus in the first week of the military bases agreement review has made us thank Gringo Honasan for the August 28 coup.

Look back to mid-1987 when Vice President Salvador H. Laurel was then the Foreign Secretary.

If Honasan did not stage the August 28 coup, President Aquino would not have sent Laurel to military camps all over the country to find out the problems of the soldiers.

If Laurel did not have a dialogue with the soldiers he would not have had the chance to ask his favorite questions, "Are there communists in the government?" and "Do you want them out of the government?"

Sure, the "communist" in the Aquino Cabinet was removed. But not before Laurel, the anti-communist, got his walking papers while he was in the middle of his red-baiting spree in Davao.

After Laurel vacated the Department of Foreign Affairs, the President had to tap Manglapus, pluck him from the Senate, to fill the post that is now the focus of the country's attention in the ongoing MBA review.

If Honasan did not stage the coup and Laurel were still the head of the Philippine panel against Ambassador Nicholas Platt, could you imagine him batting for the deletion of "unhampered military operations" from the MBA?

When Platt asked in an injured tone, "We get the impression that you don't trust us," could you imagine Laurel answering the way Manglapus did which was, "If you trust us, why do you have your 'neither confirm nor deny' policy?"

One Filipino ambassador who has witnessed a number of meetings between Laurel and his foreign counterparts guessed what would have been Laurel's answer to Platt: "Let's play golf."

One anti-nuke advocate who is beginning to take a second look at Manglapus said, if Laurel were the head of the Philippine panel, the negotiation would be finished in one week's time.

He said that after Platt gave that grim scenario about Soviet threat to the Philippines and Asia-Pacific, Laurel would have begged the Americans to stay.

If there was any condition Laurel would exact from the US, he said, it would be to make him President of the Republic of the Philippines.

So, it cannot be said that Gringo's August 28 coup did nothing but harm for the country.

Since the US Central Intelligence Agency was, and still is, supposed to be behind Gringo, we should give credit where credit is due.

To the CIA: thanks for giving us Manglapus for the MBA review

/12223

MIDWEEK Columnist Links Honasan Escape to U.S. Bases Review

42000333b Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK
in English 27 Apr 88 p 23

[Text] The presidency has always been especially pivotal to the affairs of the Philippines, a country whose authoritarian traditions have been around longer than its democratic ones. The man (and now, the woman) who sits in Malacanang can thus set the course of government for the years of his or her incumbency, create the political style for which that government will be known, and even chart entirely new directions for the country.

It has been argued, however, that the power of the presidency is largely illusory when it comes to confronting such basic issues as the attainment and defense of Philippine sovereignty; that while the President of the Philippines can force Congress into submission and even create a docile Supreme Court, he or she can't get the United States to agree to turn over to Philippine courts U.S. servicemen accused of crimes off Clark and Subic, or even to just stay clear of Philippine affairs.

Neither, this argument continues, can the Philippine President even consider instituting basic changes in the economic life of the nation, because the United States is sure to resent it, its interests being deeply embedded in the colonial economy. The United States, in short, will defend its strategic and economic interests with appropriate pressures, including the threat of withdrawing support from whoever is President, thus endangering the stability of his or her government. Under these conditions, which President would choose to stand up to the United States?

Some nationalists had hoped that Corazon Aquino would be that exception, because of the initial uniqueness of her presidency. Corazon Aquino is not only the

first woman to ever be President of this country; she is also the first Philippine President to have come to power through a popular uprising. These Center-Left roots, nationalists had hoped, could enable the Aquino presidency not only to spearhead economic reforms, but also to withstand U.S. pressures.

The reforms, as we all know by now, have been slow in coming. Many nationalists have also come to believe that the Aquino government has been more prepared to accede to U.S. wishes rather than to stand up to them. But a more crucial arena to determine whether indeed the Aquino government will be yet another U.S. creature is the review of the Military Bases Agreement, which began last week, if only because the bases issue is exceedingly crucial to the sovereignty and future of this country, just as their retention is especially important to U.S. strategic interests.

Just how important the bases are to the United States may be gleaned from the probable role of certain U.S. assets in the escape of former Army Colonel Gregorio Honasan, which occurred practically on the eve of the review of the MBA. The escape indeed precipitated another crisis, and the government's panicky reaction was certainly not occasioned by one man's suddenly being once more among us, but by the realization that Honasan could, with determined external help, overthrow the Aquino government. The more significant message is that there are forces waiting in the wings and prepared to give in to Uncle Sam's wishes on the bases should the Aquino government prove too recalcitrant.

If the statements of Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus are to be any gauge, however, the Honasan escape, despite the panic in other areas of the government, including Malacanang, had so far not made much of a difference in the foreign office's position on the bases as of last week. Manglapus had remained steadfast in trying to define the limits of U.S. access to and freedom of action in the bases, by zeroing in on at least two important issues: the MBA guarantee of "unhampered" U.S. use of the bases, and the "prior consultation" clause before the U.S. can launch offensive operations against third countries, or station long-range missiles at Clark and Subic.

Manglapus has rightly concluded that the constitutional ban on nuclear weapons in Philippine territory would be a mere paper provision unless the Philippine government gains the option to approve or disapprove U.S. proposals to store long-range missiles in the bases, or to launch offensive actions against third countries. The bases, in short, may not necessarily go, but the terms under which they can continue to stay until they are eventually phased out can at least be less offensive to Philippine laws, sovereignty, and dignity.

This simple desire, however, is apparently not acceptable to the United States. For all its pretense at defending democracy, the U.S. is prepared to undermine any

instances of it if that suits its purposes. The Aquino government had every right to panic at the Honasan escape, because it did indicate how far certain groups in the U.S. military and civilian government will go to keep intact the sweetheart bases deal the U.S. has with the Philippines. That the Aquino government panicked to the extent of trying to muzzle media was more than unfortunate, however, because what has happened is that public attention has been diverted to its being, in effect, a fair-weather democracy, away from the kind of hard-ball politics the U.S. is playing in order to get its way in the current MBA review.

It all fits into the U.S. strategy, particularly the media blitz it unleashed several months ago. One suspects—although one hopes that one is wrong—that the Aquino government can't stand much more of the kind of pressure the U.S. is bringing to bear on it, among other reasons because it is vulnerable, and, at least in its clumsy effort to muzzle media, because it made more enemies at a time when it needed friends.

/9738

Congresswoman Alleges Increased Official Killing, Raps Aquino 'Watchdog'
42000333e Davao City *THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR* in English 19 Apr 88 pp 1, 7

[Article by Vic Sumalinog]

[Text] Rep. Nikki Coseteng of Quezon City last Saturday told militant lawyers in Davao City the reason why the number of detainees now has dwindled from martial law figures is because "the guardians of peace and order have become too efficient in eliminating the enemies of the state."

Coseteng who was guest at the 4th regional convention of the Concerned Lawyers Union in Mindanao (COLUMN) together with Congressmen Bonifacio M. Gillego of Sorsogon, and Gregorio Andolana of North Cotabato, added that she is disturbed at the thought that "as in wartime, the responsibility to take prisoners has perhaps become too cumbersome for our soldiers and policemen."

She said the agents of the law have now found "salvaging" a more efficacious way of serving the ends of justice.

Coseteng cited to the lawyers the latest report of the Amnesty International (AI) which detailed the unlawful killings of civilians by military and paramilitary forces in the country on mere suspicions.

She said that it is unfortunate the President seems to have agreed with her Human Rights Commissioner Mary Concepcion Bautista who called the report all sorts of names.

She said the President campaigned primarily the basic issue of human rights of which "salvagings" and other extrajudicial executions are the major violations.

But it would now appear that the President's present watchdogs are appearing to be the de facto spokesmen for the military.

/9738

Columnist Welcomes Papal Encyclical Critical of Both Capitalism, Communism

42000317e Manila *PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER* in English 27 Mar 88 p 5

[Article by Hilarion M. Henares, Jr.]

[Text] In the movies the Russians, as were the Japanese, Chinese, Germans and Spaniards before them, are depicted as disciples of the devil, villains on the side of Satan. On the other hand, Americans are always shown to be on the side of angels, the chosen instruments of the Lord.

Not any more. In the seventh encyclical of his pontificate, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, "Social Concerns," Pope John Paul II condemns BOTH the liberal capitalism of the Americans and the Marxist collectivism of the Russians as "structures of sin" — "both concepts being imperfect and in need of radical correction," according to the Pope.

What a wonderful encyclical this Sollicitudo is, developing the thoughts expressed in Pope Paul VI's *Populorum Progressio* of 20 years ago, and giving lie to many abominations in vogue today.

— It repudiates the world view of the Moonies, Fundamentalists and Opus Diaboli that the world is divided into two irreconcilable camps: God's chosen and the damned, the free world and the communists, all leading to a final nuclear confrontation. "The world divided into blocs, sustained by rigid ideologies, and in which different forms of imperialism hold sway, can only be a world subject to structure of sin."

— It supports preferential option for the poor, and Liberation Theology of Sister Mariani Dimaranan, Sister Christine Tan and Sister Soledad Perpinan against the determined attacks of Ray Orosa, Bernie Villegas and the princes of the church. "The Church feels called upon to take her stand beside the poor, to discern the justice of their requests, and to help satisfy them."

— It rejects the free trade and free enterprise promoted by Winnie Monsod, Bernie Villegas' CRC and the Makati Business Club. "The international trade system frequently discriminates against the products of the young industries of the developing countries...low-cost products of certain countries are sold at considerable profit for companies which knows no frontiers."

— It renounces the opulence of religious Youth Centers and schools for the very rich. "Faced by the need to relieve the misery of the suffering, it is obligatory to sell superfluous church ornaments and costly furnishings to provide food, drink, clothing and shelter for those who lack these things."

In *Sollicitudo*, the Pope sees "the existence of two opposing blocs, commonly known as the East and the West (with) two very different visions of man and of his freedom and social role.

"The church's social doctrine adopts a critical attitude toward both liberal capitalism and Marxist collectivism, (because) each of these blocs harbors in its own way a tendency toward imperialism."

The Pope labeled both blocs as "structures of sin — on the one hand, the all consuming desire for profit, and on the other, the thirst for power with the intention of imposing one's will upon others."

In other words, in the world view of the Vatican, the West's greed is the moral equivalent of the East's power lust, and both are guilty of impoverishing the innocent and exploited Third World.

The Pope is saying that we in poor countries were exploited by the imperialists, and deserve to have a share of what the developed world has taken for itself — to share in the "common heritage" of mankind, or as the Pope put it, "rightful access to the goods meant for all."

The Pope extols "the right of economic initiative" as well as the "right of freedom to profess and practice one's own religious belief."

The bottom line on the Pope's encyclical is this:

— The standard CIA line that the Americans and the Free World are democracies, while the Russians and the Socialist World are dictatorships are outright lies — there are just as many dictatorships among America's clients as there are among Russia's satellites.

— The standard AmCham line that multinational corporations are agents of free enterprise and true competition, are lies too — Big Businesses are relentlessly prosecuted by the American government as monopolies. True competition only exists when there are many small competitors in a field of endeavor; such giants as IBM, AT&T, Exxon, General Motors which control more than 50 percent of the market, are Monopolies and are an aberration of Capitalism.

And the Pope says to both the USA and Russia, with words of Shakespeare's Mercutio: "Plague on both your houses."

Congressman Criticizes Military 'Meddling in Civil Affairs'

42000334a Manila *THE MANILA TIMES* in English
27 Apr 88 pp 1, 6

[Article by Fidel Asor, Jr.: "Military Hit for Meddling in Purely Civilian Affairs"]

[Text] A House member denounced on the floor yesterday the interference by the military with purely civilian affairs and the militarization of the government.

Rep. Alvin Dans of Basilan expressed apprehension over the growing influence being exerted by active and retired military officers on the affairs of the government.

He cited as example the public objection aired by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and Gen. Renato de Villa, Armed Forces chief, to the recommendation of a Senate committee to disband the banned anti-communist vigilante groups nationwide.

Dans also cited recent major policy decisions reportedly crafted by the military such as the setting up of checkpoints on the major thoroughfares of the metropolis at the height of the Sparrow Unit assassinations of military and police personnel.

He said these major policy decisions of the military ran counter to Section 3, Article II of the Constitution which clearly states that Civilian authority is, at all times, supreme over the military."

The solon warned that there would come a time when the Aquino government would drift back to Marcos' time when the military had a strong influence on major government decisions.

Dans took note of the growing militarization of the government, saying appointing retired military officers to civilians posts "was an infraction of sound administrative ethics and of fundamental law."

Dans said among the former military officers holding top government posts were Ramos, Gen. Eduardo Ermita, former vice-chief of staff, now defense under-secretary; Maj. Gen. Jose Magno, former Southcom chief, now presidential adviser on military affairs; Maj. Roberto Canieso, former Army chief, now chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency; Gen. Jose Almonte, a former Army officer, now chief of the Economic Intelligence and Investigation Bureau; Gen. Salvador Mison, former vice-chief of staff, now Bureau of Customs chief, and Gen. Manuel Yan, undersecretary of foreign affairs.

MIDWEEK Editorial Hits Aquino Administration, Constitution Contradictions
42000333c Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 27 Apr 88 p 1

[Text] Like pan de sal, our fabled democratic space is slowly but steadily shrinking.

The Aquino Constitution of 1986 is categorical in its defense of aspects of this democratic space:

"No law shall be passed abridging the freedom of speech, of expression, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances."

And further:

"The State shall provide the policy environment for the full development of Filipino capability and the emergence of communication structures suitable to the needs and aspirations of the nation and the balanced flow of information into, out of, and across the country, in accordance with a policy that respects the freedom of speech and the press."

The Aquino administration, unfortunately, seems to have forgotten the very constitution whose ratification it strenuously campaigned for. Or it simply ignores constitutional provisions that are inconvenient, such as the provision to disband private armies and paramilitary vigilante forces.

In the wake of Colonel Gringo Honasan's escape, government has become very touchy about press freedom. It banned from the airlines an interview with the colonel that one radio station wanted to air, and it warned all media, including print, not to play up Honasan and his coup cohorts, or even Communist guerrillas and Moro secessionists.

It may be argued that no actual law abridging freedom of speech, or of expression, or of the press, has yet been passed by this particular government. For film and television, the administration has chosen to retain a Marcosian censorship decree, PD 1986 (about which the print media have unfortunately not been sufficiently exercised or incensed); but for print and radio, there has been no written directive or executive order institutionalizing repression—only "policy statements."

Moreover,, the policy statements themselves have been conflicting and contradictory. Government is still paying lip service to freedom while itching to start a crackdown, with the result that it is forced into neither-confirmed-nor-denied verbal contortions, as in the President's enunciated policy "not to prevent any radio or TV interview from being aired, on one hand, and not to give clearance for the airing of any interview, on the other."

Still, the signals are pretty clear: *Practice self-censorship now if you don't want to get censored later.*

Media's response should be equally clear: continue to oppose or simply ignore such signals—the same strategy used against Marcosian repression.

/9738

Columnist Reports, Analyzes Aquino Cabinet Coordination

42000317f Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 27 Mar 88 p 5

[Article by Belinda Olivares-Cunanan]

[Text] If you taxpayers are worried that the efforts being exerted by the Cabinet secretaries are not commensurate to what you are paying them, try looking again. Perhaps this new Cabinet may be among the hardest-working assembled in a long time.

Let's take the case of, say Labor Secretary Franklin Drilon. In a recent conversation with him, this columnist asked Drilon what he does aside from administering the huge Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) which has a number of very large agencies such as the POEA. He sits in the Cabinet which meets regularly every Wednesday morning and where the secretaries function in so-called clusters. Thus he belongs to the group composed of Trade Secretary Joe Concepcion, Tourism boss Tony Gonzales and Science chief Tony Arrizabal. Another cluster, for instance, bunches together Budget's Guillermo Carague, NEDA's Winnie Monsod and Finance's Ting Jayme. Then there is the so-called "security cluster" led by Defense Chief Fidel Ramos, and so on. The idea of clustering the departments is obviously to improve their efficiency through coordination.

The Cabinet secretaries are also members of the NEDA council headed by the President, which meets once a month. Here they are grouped into committees, and for instance, Frank Drilon is in the social development committee together with Lourdes Quisumbing, Mita Pardo de Tavera and Alran Bengzon. In addition, the secretaries are all members of the Presidential Agrarian Reform Council (PARC), the highest governing body in the agrarian reform set-up under EO 229, which sets down policies on this vital issue. In case Congress fails to approve a land reform law, PARC will carry the brunt of executing EO 229.

On top of all this, fourteen of the 26 or so line secretaries were designated last Feb. 9 by Administrative Order No 55 as Cabinet officers for regional development (CORD). Drilon is CORD for Region VI, while Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig is CORD for the National Capital Region and Finance Chief Ting Jayme is CORD for the Cordillera Administrative Region. The idea is to put each region of the country under the special

care of a Cabinet secretary who will oversee its development and act as extension of the President. The CORD links up the various agencies operating in the region, such as the department of local governments, NEDA and others, and is charged with reviving the regional development council (RDC) and the regional peace and order council (RPOC).

Each CORD is responsible for identifying priority projects and seeing to it that its execution is well-coordinated with other line agencies within the Cabinet. The various CORDS meet with the President once a month. The CORD also makes it a point to visit his assigned region at least once a month, but it is frequently oftener. Drilon, for instance, runs his region through the CORD central secretariat in the DOLE office. This, in turn, coordinates with the CORD regional secretariat which orchestrates the movements of the local representatives of various government agencies.

It is obvious from the above that one danger could be that the Cabinet secretaries could be severely over-worked, thus reducing their efficiency. In fact there is so much talk in the grass-roots level about the failure of government agencies to deliver the basic services. One wonders if the present taxing demand on the secretaries could be partly to blame.

Drilon feels, however, that efficiency is first and foremost a question of management and getting the right people. For instance, he says, the idea is to make the RDC "Filter" the needs of the region, instead of bringing all the vexing nitty-gritty to the CORD's attention. "If that were to happen, talagang masisira ang ulo ng CORD," says Frank, who was a corporate lawyer dealing with management cases prior to his acceptance of the DOLE job—a thankless job nobody wanted, after the hell Bobbit Sanchez went through.

Perhaps it is because she is aware of the thanklessness of his job that Cory Aquino seems very appreciative of his efforts. He is one of only around seven people who received a personally embroidered handiwork from her last Christmas.

The DOLE secretary insists that properly administered the CORD system could be the answer, for it brings the Cabinet official very close to the people's needs. The priorities of each province in the region, called "proposed impact projects" have been established by his staff. Among them are the P4.5 million San Remigio-Leon national road in Antique and the P3.5 million Jaro-La Paz river control in Iloilo.

In addition Drilon is looking at other problems such as the exorbitant power rates in Region VI. Why is it, he asks, that consumers there pay higher rates than the MERALCO's, when the NPC claims to pass power to the cooperatives at a loss. It could be that "there's so much inefficiency in the cooperatives that's being passed on to the consumers."

Drilon is also looking at the lack of credit for the region's agricultural people which he traces to the failure to rehabilitate the rural banks. He suspects the Central Bank "is sitting on those rehabilitation plans," and has called the finance officials' attention to this.

To Drilon, the recent local election was far more significant than the may 1987 congressional elections, for the former established the administrative cogs that should finally get the bureaucratic machinery moving where it matters—at the grassroots. Prior to the elections the civilian sector displayed only half-hearted support, he notes, but now that the local officials have the mandate, "I think we will see and feel the difference." He finds most of the local officials cooperative, wanting to get involved in their community's problems and do good. "They want industrial peace to reign in their areas."

Talk to Drilon about the difficulties of a job generally regarded as thankless, and he gets a bit tongue-tied trying to decide what makes it very difficult. He insists it isn't so much the pittance of a salary of a Cabinet secretary, compared to what he used to get as a top-rate corporate lawyer. "After all I've put aside enough for a rainy day in the private job." His administration of DOLE has ushered in a relatively peaceful era in labor-management relations, something which has confounded even his biggest skeptics; but once in a while he gets his share of the criticisms which, he admits, is part of the "daily pressures" government officials must bear.

But he also admits it has been an enormous growing experience. Used to moving only in the rarified reaches of the Makati business world before as a management lawyer, Drilon has over the last year and a half viewed the perspective from the laborers' end—"a whole new world." Not too long ago he was invited as guest speaker by his old Makati civic group at its formal induction, a ritzy affair complete with a cotillion, long gowns and tuxedos at the plush Manila Polo Club. In the midst of the affair it suddenly hit him: Kanya pala nagcocomunista ang iba. Out where he has been all these months people would fight over a P1 increase.

07310

Military Congress Reports Cite Continuing Danger From 'Right'

42000334g Quezon City MALAYA in English
29 Apr 88 p 4

[Article: "Aquino Govt' Still in Danger From Right-Wingers"]

[Text] Neither the absence of a coup attempt by right-wing groups during President Aquino's China visit nor the arrest of eight of the fourteen elite Navy guards who helped dismissed army Lt. Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan escape last April 2 proves the stability of the Aquino government.

Honasan, leader of several past attempts at toppling the Aquino administration, is still at large. The hunt for Honasan has resulted in no significant lead which can contribute to his early recapture.

That Honasan could be making the rounds in preparation for a showdown with the Aquino government, aided financially and morally, as per military claims, by right-wing military groups and big politicians and businessmen, means that the Aquino government is still in a dangerous position.

Col. Guillermo Ruiz, deputy commander of the National Capital Region Defense Command (NCRDC), and other military officials were summoned last week by the House of Representatives committee on national defense to disclose what the military claimed was a list of people allegedly giving financial and moral support to Honasan. Speculations are rife that these groups of politicians and businessmen may just be bidding for a part in Honasan's power agenda.

Right-wing groups in the military have wasted no time trying to consolidate. Four days after Honasan fled, 17 retired and active officers of the Armed Forces formed the Council of Military Reforms Advisers in the Defense Establishment (COMRADE).

Tagged as a right-wing group by military intelligence sources, COMRADE is said to have been organized to serve as an advisory group for future coup attempts. If the civilian authorities do not keep watch, COMRADE may very well be to Pres. Aquino what RAM (Reform the Armed Forces Movement) was to then President Marcos.

Brig. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, chief of the NCRDC, said recently that right-wing forces just "might push through with their earlier plan of setting up a military underground junta" in the Ilocos region. This was confirmed by a statement sent to media by the so-called "nationalist Army of the Philippines" led by discharged Constabulary Major Reynaldo Cabauatan who confirmed that his group had forged an "informal tactical alliance" with Honasan's group.

A military intelligence report has also monitored another still unidentified group that has been recruiting soldiers inside military camps in Metro Manila. Some military units have thus been called in for "loyalty checks and pep talks."

Despite the Aquino government's already hardline policy on leftist guerrillas and even legal left groups, sources close to the government estimate that Honasan can swing one-third of the 159,000-strong Armed Forces to his side on the basis of his oft-repeated claim that the Aquino government is "soft on communism."

The financial and moral support being enjoyed by Honasan is bad enough for the Aquino government. But what puts the Aquino administration in a more dangerous position is the alleged support being given Honasan by certain United States groups.

The Honasan getaway is believed to have been aided along by some US groups which want to pressure President Aquino to resist a popular clamor for the US bases pullout.

A few solons in the House of Representatives have indeed made public their views on possible CIA involvement in the Honasan escape. Rep. Venancio Garduce (PnB, Samar) said that the escape may have been staged to distract the Aquino government and put it off balance as review talks are underway between the US and Philippine panels on the US military bases in the country.

Many observers agree that the timing of the Honasan escape and the bases review may not be mere coincidence.

Why the US may now want to topple the administration of President Aquino or destabilize it at the very least, is difficult to understand. But from the US perspective, the medium-term goal of "political stability" may yet take a back seat to its more immediate goal of assuring the stay of the US bases in the Philippines. Coddling Honasan, an influential and vocal defender of the supposed need for the US bases, is a step towards this goal.

After several failed coup tries, will Honasan succeed in deposing President Aquino in the future?

From all indications, the support being enjoyed by Honasan has dwindled little, if at all, despite the claims of the Aquino-Ramos factions among the military. Succumbing to US pressure, on the part of President Aquino, would mean prolonged US support for her government and US withdrawal, if only for a while, of support for Honasan.—PHILIPPINE NEWS AND FEATURES

/12223

MALAYA Denounces Official Denials of Abuses Upsurge

42000334e Quezon City MALAYA in English
27 Apr 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Brazen Killings"]

[Text] Let President Aquino and Human Rights Commissioner Mary Concepcion-Bautista, both consistent in their denial of the upsurge of human rights abuses, coddle the animals who dumped two bodies, surely "salvage" victims, in front of the office of the Task Force Detainees.

Murderers by definition have gone beyond the bounds of morality. But rotten indeed is a society that allows murderers to openly express their contempt to the values many of us hold holy.

Task Force Detainees, if the President and Commissioner Bautista still remember, was in the forefront of the struggle for the preservation of whatever remaining liberties we had during the years of terror under the Marcos dictatorship. It is still carrying on the work of documenting and bringing to the attention of the authorities cases of illegal detention, torture and summary killings that sadly have not vanished from the scene, notwithstanding the overthrow of the dictatorship.

Mrs. Aquino and Mrs. Bautista unfortunately have played deaf and blind to the cases newly documented by Task Force Detainees. They prefer to call the reports "propaganda" of the enemies of the state.

By their action, they have led the killers to believe that murder is a legitimate instrument against suspected criminals and so-called subversives.

/12223

TIMES Says 'Gains of EDSA' Depend Upon Civilian Defense Groups
42000334b Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English
28 Apr 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Of Civilian Volunteers"]

[Text] Civilian role in the fight against insurgency can never be overemphasized. Many wars have been won with civilian volunteers on the side of the winners.

Past events attest to this observation.

The military might of the United States had been rendered ineffective in Vietnam because civilian volunteers were on the other side.

Likewise, the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan is not expected to last long simply because of a hostile civilian population. With civilian volunteers on their side, the Sandinistas toppled Nicaragua's dictatorship.

In the Philippines, civilian volunteer groups have aligned themselves with the government and, as a result the growth of the insurgency is being effectively checked.

The success of the Alsa Masa in Davao has inspired peace-loving individuals to form their own groups to help quell insurgency. The Nakasaka in Mindanao made inroads not only in its anti-dissidence campaign but also in the maintenance of peace and order in the area.

There have been similar moves to form vigilante groups in Luzon and even in Metropolitan Manila in the face of the rebels' intensified activities.

In her visit to Davao City last year, President Aquino—delighted by the success of the Alsa Masa in driving away communist rebels—endorsed the formation of more vigilante groups in the countryside.

But, Senator Tanada has a different opinion of the volunteer organizations in the Philippines. He has recommended the dismantling of these groups because "they have violated basic human rights."

In a 26-page report by the Senate Committee on Human Rights, Senator Tanada virtually belittled the anti-communist volunteer groups saying "they would not solve the country's 19 year-old insurgency problem." The report listed down detailed human rights violations and abuses committed by members of the 120 or so vigilante groups throughout the country. The report noted that "many vigilante groups have become notorious for harassing, torturing and executing civilians." Senator Tanada said vigilante victims appeared helpless because they had nowhere to go to complain about abuses since local officials were behind these (civilian volunteer) groups.

On the other hand, General De Villa defended the volunteer organizations saying that scrapping them would gravely set back the gains made by the military in containing the growth of the insurgency movement. He added they were an essential component in the AFP's total counterinsurgency program.

Defense Secretary Ramos, airing the same view, said civilian support was imperative in the overall campaign to solve insurgency.

Under the new concept in the national defense system of the Armed Forces, the civilian volunteer organizations form one of the three layers in the territorial defense deployment in a particular system. The two others are the territorial peace-keeping forces such as the Constabulary and the police, and the mobile forces composed of the Army and the military combat units.

Assuming there have been abuses and human rights violations by some misguided elements in the civilian volunteer groups, is it enough justification to dismantle these groups even if they proved effective in the total campaign against insurgency? Have the so-called misguided elements been proven members of these organizations?

Is it wrong for members of a community to unite in self-defense or in the preservation of their own human rights being threatened by godless elements?

After carefully examining all sides of the question, an important decision must be arrived at upon which would lie the fate of the nation if it is to continue serving as democracy's show window in this part of the world...Or let the gains of EDSA fritter away just like that.

/12223

Governor Cites Manila Failure To Repair Power Lines Sabotaged in January 87
42000334c Manila *MANILA BULLETIN* in English
28 Apr 88 p 5

[Article: "Lanao Governor Airs Appeal"]

[Text] Lanao del Sur Gov. Saidamen B. Pangarungan appealed yesterday to President Aquino for the immediate restoration of electric power lines to 30 towns of his province, which were cut down by Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels on Jan. 13 last year.

In an urgent letter to the President, the governor lamented that one year and three months of continuous darkness have brought so much suffering and inconvenience to his people.

While most of Mindanao is energized, the source of power—Lanao del Sur lake—is ironically groping in the dark, a situation being capitalized by anti-government forces in their propaganda activities, he added.

Pangarungan said that his people feel that they should be similarly treated as in Bicol, where their power lines recently cut down by NPA insurgents were repaired promptly by the government.

The release of £12.6 million from the Special Calamity Fund of the President had been favorably recommended to President Aquino by the National Electrification Administration (NEA), the National Power Corp. (NPC), and the Regional Development Council of Region 12 to rehabilitate the damaged transmission lines.

But Pangarungan said that the Department of Budget and Management has not acted on the request until now.

He said that the destruction of the power lines by rebels is an act of rebellion which is a force majeure covered by the said calamity fund.

If the fund is released, the governor plans to install steel-reinforced concrete posts, instead of wooden poles, to prevent their being sawed easily by lawless elements.

Pangarungan is taking the precautionary measure even as he received rebel assurances not to cut down the electric posts again and of public cooperation and vigilance over the transmission lines.

He learned in his inspection tours around the province that people are now having doubts on the sincerity of the government to look after their welfare because of its long continued failure to act on this power problem.

/12223

Mindanao Daily Criticizes Congresswoman on Armed Resistance Stance
42000317b Davao City *THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR* in English 22 Mar 88 p 2

[Editorial: "Unbelievable But True"]

[Text] We simply could not believe our ears that a government official, an honorable congresswoman at that, would advocate that a certain sector of society should take up guns and fight the government if the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program is implemented.

But of course, we can understand the nagging fears and the mounting pressures that moved the representative from Negros Occidental to advocate violence, nay even a civil strife.

Perhaps, the woman representative is so very much afraid to lose her precious lands of 300 hectares of rubber plantation in North Cotabato and another 150 hectares of sugar plantation in her province that she forgot momentarily that she is a government official bound to uphold this government.

Granting that she feels threatened by House Bill 400 which sets the retention limits and manner of compensation of the lands to be bought from the private landowners, the congresswoman should have resisted or stifled the urge to call for violence from a moneyed group capable of launching a civil strife.

It is such actions as manifested by the congresswoman that one is reminded all too painfully of the arrogance and callousness of the wealthy and the landed gentry who refused to see the handwriting on the wall and share a little of their affluence with the less fortunate of their brethren.

That the congresswoman from Negros Occidental also haughtily branded media as "hungry" and "can be bought", a very sweeping generalization indeed, also showed all too clearly how the lawmaker looks down on those who unlike her do not own hundreds of hectares of lands, are not garbed in expensive clothes or flash valuable jewelry.

Our only consolation is that not all congressmen and congresswomen belonged to the same breed as the solon being discussed. Level headed and sober minds are needed to discuss the controversial CARP not the foul-mouthed violence prone what's her name.

07310

Mindanao Landowners Hit Cardinal Sin, Support Autonomy
42000317a Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 22 Mar 88 pp 1, 9

[Article by Marietta F. Siongco]

[txt]

[Text] Some 1,000 landowners attending a two-day convention in protest of what they described as the "confiscatory comprehensive agrarian reform program" yesterday asked Jaime Cardinal Sin to "give up the awesome wealth of his own diocese of Manila."

In a resolution, the landowners asked Cardinal Sin who has been endorsing the Gillego Bill or House Bill 400 to stop interfering with politics and to first strip himself of his worldly wealth before exhorting social observation of social justice from the landed, 88 percent of whom are small landowners."

They said Cardinal Sin and the Bishops Conference should observe the biblical injunction of Christ to his apostles; "Sell everything you have, leave your family and follow me."

"Divest yourselves of your interests and equities in corporations, give up your banks, commercial buildings, and coconut lands and give them to the poor," the resolution asked Cardinal Sin.

They also asked Cardinal Sin who said he will lead a rally in Congress today for the early passage of House Bill 400 to stop associating with economics tycoons and instead pursue his mission of spreading the gospel of Christ, justice and goodwill.

In another approved resolution, the landowners said the government should grant autonomy to both the Muslims and Christians in Mindanao similar to a federal system as in the United States and Malaysia.

Sultan Macapanton Abbas Jr. of the Moro National Liberation Front reformist group, yesterday's keynote speaker, called on the government to give the Muslims autonomy as promised by the late Senator Ninoy Aquino.

He branded the CARP as a dictated solution to the nation's problems by foreign powers saying that mere ownership or transfer of lands is not the solution.

He said it is only a matter of time before the MNLF is accepted as a member of the Organization of Islamic Conference as they have been exercising all the rights of an OIC member except that of the right to vote.

Abbas allayed fears of the resumption of hostilities even if the MNLF is admitted to the OIC "unless the government will start it."

"There is no enmity between Muslims and Christians," assured Abbas even as he recalled that during the outbreak of hostilities between Muslims and Christians in the early seventies, they did not kill one Catholic priest or burned one church unlike the military who destroyed several mosques.

Congressman Jesus G. Dureza assured the landowners that the bill or more particularly its retention limits and manner of compensation are still under discussion in the caucuses and nothing has been decided yet.

Dureza deplored that media coverage of House Bill 400 is not very accurate. He also doubted if the bill will be approved before the scheduled Holy Week recess of the House.

The convention was held under the auspices of the Council of Agricultural Producers of the Philippines headed by Eduardo Hernandez. Hosts of the Davao convention were the Filipino Banana Growers and Exporters Association under Roberto Sebastian and the Movement for a Better Mindanao whose chairman is lawyer Odilon Mallari.

07310

PC Denies Bombing Tribal Villages in Antirebel Operations

*42000334f Quezon City MALAYA in English
27 Apr 88 p 7*

[Article: "PC Denies Bombing 4 Mangyan Settlements in Anti-Reb Drive"]

[Text] Calapan, Oriental Mindoro—The Constabulary command here has denied the bombing by Air Force helicopters of four Mangyan tribal settlements last March as reported by church-based organizations and welfare agencies.

Col. Jose C. Lalisan Jr., PC/INP commander of Oriental Mindoro, told MALAYA during a recent press briefing held at the provincial headquarters that bombings of Mangyan tribal reservations by helicopter gunships under his command never happened.

Lalisan belied reports circulated by Cause-oriented groups and church organizations, specifically cited the report of the Episcopal Commission on Tribal Filipinos (ECTF), that helicopter gunships have bombed the tribal settlements of the Alangan, Tauga, Buhid and Hanunoo Mangyans in the towns of Roxas, Mansalay, Bulalacao and Baco last March 1-6 during the counter-insurgency operations launched by the local command against New People's Army rebel strongholds.

ECTF, earlier reported that Air Force helicopters bombed and strafed tribal areas and soldiers from the 271st PC Company and Regional Special Action Force (RSAF) allegedly massacred 12 Mangyan families in the course of the air and ground assaults.

Lalisan said that the helicopters only conducted "air support maneuvers" such as strafing in thickly forested areas of the Roxas-Mansalay-Bulalacao triangle "to drive away and confuse the enemies (NPAs)" positioned in the areas so as to give ground soldiers enough leeway to reach their targets.

Although he admitted that rockets were fired from the helicopters, these were "only to scare away the enemies (NPAs) which was part of their (military) psychological operations against them (NPAs)."

"There are only 114 NPA regulars operating in the triangle with approximately 78 rebels armed with guns such as M-16 armalite rifles and some other guns of lesser caliber," Lalisan revealed. With that number, "the military does not see the need to bomb them because they are not that strong," he added.

The "Mangyans involuntarily evacuated to avoid being caught in the crossfire and to flee from the 'revolutionary taxation' of the rebels," he explained.

He also denounced the ECTF statement circulated saying: "I challenge the ECTF to produce the bodies of those allegedly massacred by soldiers."

Quoting Mayor Yaum Sum Bad, the provincial leader of all Mangyans in Oriental Mindoro, Lalisan said that even Mangyan leaders did not see the bodies of those massacred.

The only complaint reported by the Mangyans was the burning of a ganta of rice in one of the huts burned by soldiers near an NPA training camp which was in the boundary of Baco and Abra de Ilog in Occidental Mindoro.

Lalisan said that the Mangyans are "peace-loving, deeply religious and have a strong sense of nationalism" that "led to the military's successful capture of a newly-constructed rebel training camp in the triangle."

He also defended the military's position of keeping municipal and provincial officials uninformed of impending counter-insurgency operations so as to prevent "spies in these agencies in declassifying military objectives" such as the exact location and date of the exercises. (Ambo Manaligod)

/12223

NDF Spokesman on Government's Intensifying of Conflict

42000333a Quezon City WE FORUM in English
25-30 Apr 88 p 10

[Text] Natividad, Pangasinan—After the (low-intensity conflict) counter-insurgency strategy comes MIC (mid-intensity conflict), and this northern Philippine province, say guerrillas, is the new laboratory for this anti-guerrilla measure which basically employs conventional warfare.

Is this any indication that the Armed Forces of the Philippines is winning the war against the communist-led New People's Army in this province, also the home province of some national officials like defense secretary Fidel V. Ramos?

"Not quite," says Vergel Ramos, spokesman of the provincial chapter of the National Democratic Front (NDF, the national umbrella organization of all clandestine Leftist forces).

"LIC, which is grassroots-based and utilizes civilian vigilantes, has been tested in this province, and it failed because the NPA either neutralized or crushed the vigilantes," he said in an interview in this farming village (200 kms. north of Manila) over the weekend.

The NDF spokesman said the failure of LIC has forced the AFP to shift to conventional warfare, which he called "mid-intensity conflict," or MIC.

MIC's opening salvo, he noted, started last Feb. 17 when three heligunships strafed and bombed Muelang village in Mangatarem town in Pangasinan's western border. The heli-borne operations were reinforced by battalion formations under the Tri-boundary Command composed of three companies.

On March 17, four companies of the Tri-boundary Command, using three heligunships and a "Tora-Tora" (World War II vintage plane), bombed and strafed San Macario Sur of the Natividad town, forcing village folk to evacuate to safer grounds, Ramos said.

More ground and airborne operations followed on March 24, this time using an F-5 jetfighter aside from heligunships, in remote villages of six western Pangasinan towns—Sual, Aguilar, Infanta, Mabini, Burgos and Bugallon—where 50 houses were burned, and 40 families lost their homes and sources of livelihood, such as the villagers' uligan (charcoal factory), he added.

Two heligunships bombed March 30 Pacalat village in Mangatarem town which, Ramos said, led to more forced evacuations and damage to property.

From the Feb. 17 military operation up to March 30, the provincial command under Col. Romeo Odi said the series of operations yielded 47 alleged NPA guerrillas.

The NDF official, however, said majority of the captured "NPA regulars" were not guerrillas.

Asked if the series of air-supported operations had neutralized the NPA in Pangasinan, Ramos said the NIC strategy now being employed in the province is "an admission of the local military's failure to contain the NPA on a guerrilla war footing basis."

"Despite MIC, the Pangasinan NPA has learned to maneuver and has been able to inflict blows against the enemy," he said, citing what he called a "successful breakthrough" of the NPA when it raided the Natividad townhall in broad daylight last March 10. The NPA seized some ten high-powered firearms, killed three policemen and wounded three others.

In its annual report last month, the provincial Constabulary command, meanwhile, reported that some 3,524 NPA regulars and supporters had surrendered to the government.

The NDF official said, however, that only five of the reported NPA surrenderees were really former NPA members. The rest were civilians either forced or tricked into signing surrender papers on the promise they would get loans for a livelihood project, Ramos said.

"In general, Odi's much publicized counter-insurgency triumphs are merely a part of MIC psy-war...and the Pangasinan NPA's ability to attack at the appropriate time is a sign of the NPA's strong foothold in the province, where the NPA's mass base continues to help revolutionary forces outmaneuver the enemy," he said.

The provincial Constabulary Command, on the other hand, said it is winning the war in Pangasinan which, it said, earned for the province an award as a counter-insurgency model in December last year. (PNF)

/9738

Farmers' Groups Threaten Confiscation, Join NDF

42000326d Quezon City MALAYA in English 29 Mar 88 pp 1, 7

[Article by Romy Tangbawan]

[Excerpt] The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas yesterday said it would start confiscating and occupying big privately owned lands in reaction to government "insincerity and hypocrisy" in coming up with a genuine agrarian reform program.

In a similar reaction, the Alyansa ng mga Magbubukid sa Gitnang Luzon [Farmers Alliance of Central Luzon; (AMGL)] said its members plan to join the outlawed National Democratic Front.

Jaime Tadeo, KMP chairman, also called on all peasant organizations to close ranks and use advanced and more effective forms of struggle to oppose any pro-landlord and anti-peasant bill that Congress might pass.

In a press conference, Tadeo said that while they were confiscating idle and abandoned lands earlier, they will now include the lands of "despotic" landlords in places where the peasant group is strong.

"Small landowners and those who have not been taking advantage of the poor farmers or their tenants need not fear," Tadeo said.

The KMP, Tadeo said, had nothing but contempt for the pro-landlord group in the House who emasculated House Bill No 400 by stripping it of its pro-peasant provisions that forced pro-farmer legislators to withdraw their sponsorship of the bill.

Tadeo also said the KMP is blaming President Aquino for "this debauchery of land reform." Had she not passed on to Congress the decisive responsibility for land reform, the landlords could not have made a mockery of it, the KMP said.

KMP leaders accused Mrs Aquino of insincerity, calling her pleas for the speedy approval of the land reform bills "hypocritical."

As long as the Philippines has a President who is a landlord, no genuine agrarian reform will be achieved, they added.

If Mrs Aquino signs into law the bill which is expected to be passed by the landlord-dominated Congress, the peasant group said it would stage countrywide indignation rallies.

Meanwhile, the Alyansa ng mga Magsasaka ng Gitnang Luzon said many farmers are already set to join the underground *Pambansang Katipunan ng Magbubukid* (PKM), and NDF affiliate.

Jun Mesina, AMGL leader, also said tenants at the 6,100-hectare Hacienda Luisita of the Cojuangco's in Tarlac are being relocated in areas not part of the Hacienda in what is seen as an attempt to evade any agrarian reform measure.

The *Pambansang Katipunan* has confiscated and distributed more than 1,000 hectares of land in Central Luzon since 1986 and has been at the forefront of the agrarian revolution.

The Alyansa said the NDF and its armed wing, the New People's Army, have been successful in distributing lands to peasants and have managed to bring down land rent.

Interests on loans incurred from landlords have also been reduced from 15 to 50 per cent by the rebels, the AMGL said.

It also noted about 3,000 farm workers have benefitted from the P2.50 to P5 wage increase which the NDF has directed several agri-business firms to give.

"We would not be surprised if our members would choose to join the PKM, and actively participate in advancing agrarian revolution in Central Luzon," the Alyansa said.

07310

CNL Spokesman Outlines Church Role in Rebel Areas

42000326c Quezon City MALAYA in English
29 Mar 88 p 6

[Text] Communist rebels plan to set up their own governments in at least three regions of the country by the middle of next year, a rebel Roman Catholic priest said yesterday.

The Rev Brendon Cruz, spokesman of the underground Christians for National Liberation, also told a clandestine news conference that the rebels have invited several bishops to visit rebel-held areas and meet communist cadres.

The CNL is one of 12 Marxist organizations under the national Democratic Front, the rebel umbrella group, the NDF includes the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military wing, the New People's Army, which celebrates its 19th anniversary today.

Cruz said his organization invited the bishops and heads of other religious organizations in the country to visit rebel areas to allay whatever fears they have of what things would be like if the rebels took over the country.

"They may see for themselves the new direction CNL is taking in the countryside, namely participation in community building and development for the war effort under the provisional revolutionary governments," he said in a seminary outside Manila.

He said the NDF already has established municipal and district-level marxist governments and would proclaim three regional governments before the second half of 1989.

The priest declined to name the areas where the rebel governments would be located, citing security reasons.

Rebel sources say the communists operate in all 13 regions of the country.

Cruz would not say if any bishops or religious superiors had accepted the rebels' invitation.

He added, however, that he had approached 18 bishops in various parts of the country and some had expressed "willingness" to participate in rebel programs for economic development and justice, including the holding of public trials of "enemies of the people."

The 46 year old priest said other bishops had adopted a "wait-and-see" attitude toward the CNL, which he said was vital in the rebel movement because of its "expertise in community-building."

The 15-year-old organization claims 4,000 members nation-wide, including priests, nuns and lay church workers. Cruz said it also includes "more than two active bishops" out of the country's 110 prelates.

About 85 per cent of the 57 million Filipinos are Roman Catholics.

Cruz said the CNL was launching a "more aggressive" campaign to influence church policy this year as the rebels are "entering the threshold of the strategic stalemate."

Communist rebels say their struggle for power has three stages—strategic defense, strategic stalemate and strategic offensive. They say the rebellion now is in an advanced stage of strategic defense.

07310

Cebu Clergy, PC Officer React to Military List of 'Rebel Priests'

'Black Propaganda' Against Church
42000326a Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English
16-17 Mar 88 pp 1, 2

[Article by Edralyn L. Benedicto]

[Text] Two widely known personalities in the Cebu Catholic Church reacted mildly over published reports naming 36 priests active in the rebel movement, 23 of whom are allegedly operating in Visayas.

Msgr Achilles Dekay, media liaison officer of the Cebu Archdiocese, when asked to comment on the report said, "So, what's new?"

Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, has also "no comment" on the published report, Dakay said.

Meanwhile, Msgr Jose Borces, executive director of the Visayas Secretariat for Social Action (Vissa) and one time Church representative in the peace negotiation and rebel amnesty program, noted the possibility of the list being a rerun of another during the Marcos regime.

While not dismissing the possibility that there were indeed priests who had joined the rebel movement, as shown by priests coming out as negotiators for the

National Democratic Front (NDF) during the peace talks, Dakay said it is now up for the accusers to substantiate their allegation.

Unbelievable

Borces said the inclusion of Fr. Louie Hechanova as alleged head of church sector, CPP-Cebu, was "unbelievable."

Hechanova was the former provincial superior of the Redemptorist Community in Cebu prior to his assignment in Rome almost three years ago.

Fr Ramon Fruto, who took over from Hechanova, could not be contacted for comment as he has been out of town since last week, SUN STAR DAILY learned in a call made to the Redemptorist Church along Elizabeth Pond, Cebu City.

Borces also said the inclusion of Hechanova was "an old one" because Hechanova was one of the priests tagged as subversive during Marcos' time.

Noting that in the published report there was no identifiable source except "military intelligence authorities," Borces said he suspects "the source is using it (the report) for black propaganda" against the Church, in general, and the progressive sector in the Church, in particular, because of its call for change, such as on land reform.

Very Easy

"Sometimes, it is very easy to make accusations in the guise of anonymity," Borces said.

The report mentioned a Fr Frank Fernandez, alleged chairman of NDF-Visayas based in Cebu City, but Borces said there is no such priest assigned in Cebu Archdiocese.

Aside from Fr Hechanova and Fr Nicolas Ruiz, one of those arrested in a round-up of rebel safehouses in Manila, Borces said he does not know personally most of the priests mentioned in the list, alleged to be operating in Visayas.

Although Borces said he was acquainted with Fr Vicente Pelobello because the latter was the former head of Iloilo Social Action Center.

Pelobello was alleged to be the secretary of the United Front Bureau of the Negros Island Party Committee.

Recom 7 Chief Vouches for Priest

42000026a Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English
16 Mar 88 pp 1, 2

[Text] PC-INP Recom 7 Chief Brig Gen Mariano Baccay, Jr. yesterday said he believes Redemptorist priest Fr Louie Hechanova is not a Communist, contrary to published reports that quoted intelligence sources in Manila.

"As far as I know, he is not (a Communist)," said Baccay.

The PC-INP Central Visayas commander was reacting to a report appearing in yesterday's issue of the "Manila Chronicle" which quoted military intelligence sources in Manila as listing Hechanova as the alleged head of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP)—Cebu Church sector.

But Baccay said he doubts the authenticity of the alleged source because "I have no bias."

On the purported involvement of Hechanova, who is now Rome-based, Baccay added, "I can't understand why he would be active here if he is not physically here. When he left for Rome, I was still Cebu Metrodiscom commander and I knew he'd be gone for six years."

Unknown

Hechanova, according to Baccay, was only outspoken especially during the controversy surrounding the abduction of fellow Redemptorist priest, Fr Rudy Romano, whose whereabouts have remained unknown until now.

Hechanova, who was the Redemptorist vice provincial superior here before leaving for Rome for a higher post, left sometime in 1986.

Meanwhile, the other alleged rebel priests in Cebu are Fr Frank Fernandez, alleged chairman of the National Democratic Front (NDF)—Visayas based in Cebu City and Fr Nicolas Ruiz, alleged liaison officer for NDF-Cebu.

However, Baccay said Ruiz was arrested earlier with rebel priest Rustico Tan during a raid.

Baccay also said there is no Cebu city-based Fr Frank Fernandez in the local military's order of battle aside from Fr Francisco "Frank" Navarro who is the chairman of the Negros Island Party Committee. TRC

Two Priests Abroad, Allegations Doubted
42000026 Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English
17 Mar 88 pp 4, 18

[Text] One of the priests named in the recent military list as an active member in the communist rebel movement has been out of the Philippines for the last six years.

Visayas Secretariat for Social Action (Vissa) executive director Msgr Jose Borces told SUN STAR DAILY he learned yesterday that Fr Jose Ma. Sucilla, alleged to be head of the Iloilo section committee of the CPP-Panay Island, has been in the United States since early 1983.

This brings to two the number of priests whose alleged links to the rebel movement was bared by the military at a time when the priest had been out of the country for several years.

Fr Luio Hechanova, former superior of the Cebu Redemptorist Community, was assigned to the Redemptorist provincialate in Rome three years ago.

He was tagged the head of the CCP-Cebu church sector in a report quoting military sources and published the other day by a national daily, THE MANILA CHRONICLE.

Fr Sucilla, a secular priest, was the social action director of Iloilo city prior to his departure abroad, Borces said.

Borces at the same time corrected that it was Fr Sucilla whom he was acquainted with among the non-Cebuano priests tagged as rebels, and not Fr Vicente Pelobello as earlier reported.

Cite Source

Borces, meanwhile, called on the media to be more specific in the attribution of published stories, particularly if it involved "serious allegations" against persons or institutions.

He said the published report which listed 36 priests allegedly active in the rebel movement, identified the source of the story as "military intelligence authorities" without pinpointing a person or a component in the military.

He said using the term "military" is "very general and unfair" to others in the military service especially since the local commander, Recom 7 chief Brig Gen Mariano Baccay, Jr., has expressed doubt on the authenticity of the report.

Baccay said he has "no basis" to believe that Fr Hechanova was a Communist. ELB

07310

Henares Compares, Contrasts Villegas Brothers; KM, Opus Dei Founders
42000326b Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
in English 29 Mar 88 p 5

[Article by Hilarion M. Henares, Jr.]

[Text] Three is a number of delicate balance, a center with two wings. A tripod can stand firm on any uneven surface, unlike any with other number of legs. And so the intriguing comes in sets of three: three wishes, three stooges, three blind mice, three bears, three little pigs, three witches, Marx brothers, three kings, love triangle, Russian troika, Greek triad, Roman triumvirate, the Trinity.

And the Three Villegas Brothers: Jose Jr., Bernardo, and Edilberto. In the political spectrum, Joe is considered a centrist, Bernie an extreme rightist, and Ed a radical leftist—a delicately balanced center with two wings.

Bernardo is the best known, being the favorite economist of the American embassy, a member of Time's Board of Economists, rah-rah boy of McDonald's Hamburgers, veep of the CRC think-tank financed by multinationals and the Hans Seidel Stiftung. A religious celibate (not the marrying kind, girls!), a numerary living in a luxurious Opus Dei male dormitory in Greenhills, he is considered a hide-bound conservative, Catolico cerrado opposed to Liberation Theology and preferential option for the poor, a lover of luxury and first class travel, and an unabashed defender of American bases, multinationals and IMF excremental conditionalities.

The youngest brother, Edilberto, is a professor in UP Manila, together with Jose Maria Sison (Communist) and Nur Misuari (Muslim separatist), a co-founder of the Kabataan Makabayan (Nationalist Youth); a political detainee for two years during martial law, confined in one-bulb no-toilet cell with 19 others for six months and horribly tortured.

The eldest brother, Jose, Jr., is a labor leader and politician, most unique of all three. At 25 the youngest councilor of QC, president of the QC Bar Association, courageous lawyer of Eduardo Quintero who exposed Marcos bribery of the Constitutional Convention, a crusader for consumerism, labor unionism and human rights, he brought Macapagal and Laurel together into opposition partnership with the birth of the UNIDO. Above all, he is the Secretary General of the only labor party in the Philippines, the Lapiang Manyagawa, founded by the legendary greats of the labor movement: Cipriano Cid, Roberto Oca, old Olalia, Ignacio Lacsina, Vicente Rafael, Amado Hernandez, Tamayo and others.

The three brothers are a study in contrasts. Joe is an Atenean, party goer, smug and eloquent; Bernie is a La Sallite, Stick-in-the-mud bookish introverted scholar; Ed is a UP rebel, intellectual loner and parliamentarian of the streets.

As students, Joe drove his own car, Bernie was chauffered to school, and Ed took the jeepney. Joe wears a wig, Bernie's bald head is exposed to the elements, and Ed is profuse with cranial vegetation. Joe fraternizes with labor, Bernie with imperialists, and Ed with the aca-deme. In numbered sequence, Ed has two children, Joe has none, Bernie has none.

Joe has smiling eyes with a penchant for making friends. Bernie's eyes behind his thick glasses looks unfocused, always looking heavenward as if imploring the Lord not to strike him blind with lightning. Ed has sharp penetrating eyes, defiant, like his grandfather Gen Miguel Malvar, the last Filipino general to surrender to the Americans.

One might say that Bernie and Ed are cut-and-dry stereotypes: one a rightist clerico-fascist laissez faire capitalist agent of American imperialism, the other a leftist socialist intellectual burgis, a traitor to his class in true dialectical fashion.

It is Joe the centrist that defies categorization. He is for all-out industrialization, and co-ownership by labor of the means of production, supporting the bill on profit-sharing filed by Rep Oscar Santos, proposing 40 percent ownership of companies by the employees.

In 1964, Bernie Villegas and two Spanish priests met in the Villegas house to found the Opus Dei of the Philippines.

In the same room a few months before, Ed Villegas, Joe Ma Sison and Nur Misuari founded the Kabataan Makabayan from which issued forth Sison's Communist Party (CPP) and Misuari's Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

In the same room, same year, and in the minds of two Villegas brothers, were born the forces that are tearing our nation apart: Communism, Muslim separatism, and clerico fascist pro-Americanism.

07310

Local Industries Uniting Against Import Liberalization Policy
42000326f Quezon City MALAYA in English
29 Mar 88 pp 1, 6

[Article by Chit Estella]

[Text] The newly formed Buy Philippine-Made Movement Inc., an organization of manufacturing firms, warned yesterday of a return to the crisis-ridden economy of 1983 if the government insists on carrying out the import liberalization policy fully.

The business leaders, who spoke at the Kapihan sa Manila, included Raul Concepcion, chairman of the movement; Felix Maramba, Jr., of Liberty Flour Mills; Peter Garrucho of CC Unson, Inc.; Ramon Davila of Ramie Textiles; and Oscar Villadolid of San Miguel Corp.

The businessmen said the import liberalization scheme would kill budding industries and discourage those planning to expand their business starting this year.

Concepcion said the government and the International Monetary Fund which imposed the import liberalization policy should reconsider their decision to fully carry out the scheme by April 1988.

He said a deficit of about \$1 billion could result from the liberalization of virtually all imported items that were previously banned. He noted the entry of an additional \$800 million worth of imported items last year.

He said the movement, which includes not only Filipino firms but also foreign manufacturing firms doing business here and employing Filipino workers, would oppose the total implementation of the import liberalization policy.

Villadolid said the movement would endorse their firms' high-quality products and would stamp a seal of excellence on the products of firms consistently producing high-quality items.

Villadolid said the organization aims to break the Filipino colonial mentality of preferring imported goods by upgrading the quality of Philippine products.

The movement, which started out with 40 manufacturing firms last year now has 90 members, and has invited 64 more firms to join it.

07310

TIMES Denounces Attitude of Elite on Trade Loans
42000317d Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English
13 Mar 88 p 5

[Article by Manuel F. Almario]

[Text] The get-rich-quick attitude of the Filipino leadership elite is manifested not only in its fascination for treasure hunts but also in its fixation for economic policies that supposedly promise easy wealth for the country.

Two of these are free trade and the incurring of foreign loans. Free trade condemned our country to the production of basic agricultural products and raw materials in

exchange for more expensive manufactured products. Foreign loans further impoverished our people by burdening it with a debt payment amounting to 40 per cent of our national budget.

Most of this debt did not go into productive enterprises that would have lessened our economic dependence on foreign countries. A large part went into the construction of five-star hotels to house foreigners, impact cultural projects which only the rich and their foreign guests can afford to enjoy, magnificent highways to accommodate the imported Toyotas and Mercedes Benzes of the wealthy, etc.

Foreign economic assistance is another object and result of our get-rich-quick syndrome. In its vulgar sense, dependence on aid is a beggarly trait, of which even the beggar is ashamed. But there is no such moral compunction among the leadership in the acceptance and dependence on foreign aid. They even boast about it.

But like the foreign loans, the foreign aid helped only the rich. A study by the Center for International Policy in Washington, DC, released in 1979, stated that only 22 per cent of US aid to the Philippines was reaching the needy, and this amounted to a "less than a penny per person per day!" Where did the aid go? "For tobacco loans, insurance for a Bank of America branch office, military aid to a country that the Pentagon says faces no external threat, rural electrification priced out of the reach of the rural poor..."

The foreign loans and the foreign aid however do not come free. The former rob us of our sovereignty over our economic affairs, as our foreign creditors and the IMF-World Bank attain the power to veto and direct our economic program, including our taxation policy. The latter robs us of our sovereignty over portions of our territory occupied by US military bases, and of the control of the fate of our people in matters of war and peace.

The fortune hunting proclivity of our leadership elite stems from its colonial and collaborationist nature. It has never recovered from the defeat of our anti-colonial struggle, mostly waged by the common people, from Lapu-Lapu to Andres Bonifacio and Macario Sakay.

On the other hand, the US and Japanese elites are fiercely nationalistic. Unlike the Philippine revolution against Spain, the American revolution against England was led by social elite of planters, manufacturers and professionals like George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Paine. The Meiji revolution for modernization of Japan was led by the Emperor against the feudal barons.

Alexander Hamilton, one of the founders of America, laid the foundation of a strong America when he convinced Washington and succeeding generations to promote local industries through tariff protection. "The

establishment of manufactures in the United States when maturely considered will be found to be of the highest importance to their prosperity. It seems an almost self-evident proposition that communities which can most supply their own wants are in a state of the highest perfection." Hamilton wrote in 1791 in his famous report on manufactures.

Our political and social elite may pay lip service to self-reliance and economic independence as desirable national ends. But in their policies, they perpetuate a state of economic, military and ideological dependence for our people, policies which benefit them as a class and as individuals, but which condemn the masses of our people to penury and indignity.

07310

Columnist Criticizes Food Export Policies
42000317c Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English
13 Mar 88 p 5

[Article by Mao Chanco]

[Text] Administrator Malcolm Sarmiento of the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority seems to have a great thing going for shrimp and prawn raisers. According to a PFDA announcement, 14,000 kilos of prawns processed at the PFDA's fish port in Iloilo were recently exported abroad at the fantastic price of P400 a kilo. The total value of the export, housed in three containers, was P5,600,000. Think of that—P400 per kilo! No wonder all the prawns and fish products we buy in Metro Manila are of such poor quality and cost so much. With the kind of prices foreign buyers are paying, it may take till never before Filipinos can afford to eat their own indigenous delicacies again.

Sarmiento does not tell us exactly what PFDA does for the big prawn exporters. It may be that all he does is to check whether the products are fresh and deserving of the prices paid for them. But whatever it is Sarmiento is supposed to do, one wonders whether he has time left to bother with the small prawn raisers whose products reach us, if we are lucky, from time to time. One doubts it, though. Small raisers hardly conjure the same clout that the big producers command. If PFDA were to service the small growers as well as he is supposed to service the big boys, we would not have any prawns or shrimps at all. We would have to make do with dilis or galunggong. In fact these are almost always the only things left to us.

The PFDA is of course only one of several government agencies whose actions contribute to the enrichment of the big and the suffering of the many. Take mangoes. Before mangoes began joining the export chorus line, they were seasonally obtainable at prices ordinary people could afford. Today the cheapest kinds sell for P25 to P30 a kilo. Note, too, that the best mangoes can no longer be found in fruit stalls. Like shrimps, prawns and

the good things we used to have, mangoes have become a critical export. That is why their prices, for local consumers, have also become critical.

Government offices like the NEDA, the Central Bank and the Department of Trade explain this phenomenon of Filipinos starving in their own country as a necessary concomitant of progress. Concomitant is a word which translates roughly as the price we pay for progress. No one, not even Enrique Zobel's quasi political party, can quarrel with this policy. Its only flaw (if flaw it really is) is that instead of democratizing the country, it depopulates it.

Should a time be reached when the bureaucracy is forced to decide between feeding the people or selling the contents of the national cupboard for dollars, the people could easily lose. Dollars can be converted into any currency. People convert usually into trouble.

Fortunately the situation, while serious, is not really hopeless.

The pro-export crowd, like Malcolm Sarmiento, will likely suggest that instead of eating expensive prawns and export-quality fish products, the people eat meat and vegetables. And where mangoes are concerned, we can be retrained all over again to subsist on bananas, which is good both for the hypertensive and/or the bird-brained.

What if the people should refuse? They had better not. National decision-makers may become so infuriated at the recalcitrant among us they might decide to scuttle the present population and import new people to take our place. Where would that leave us?

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POLITICAL

Contents of March Legal Journal NHA NUOC VA PHAP LUAT
42000325 Hanoi NHA NUOC VA PHAP LUAT (Legal Journal) in English Mar 88, Inside Back Cover

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ECONOMIC

Exports To Be Expanded With Soviet Assistance

42090141a Hanoi NGOAI THUONG in Vietnamese Oct 87, pp 4-6, 11

[Article by Phuong Binh: "Expanding Cooperation in Order To Rapidly Increase Our Exports"]

[Text] Vietnam-Soviet economic-commercial relations entered a new stage of development following the meeting between Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of our party, and Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, in May 1987 in Moscow.

We are continuing to further expand our cooperation in every field with the Soviet Union, from contract work for the Soviets and joint businesses with them to direct investments, while strengthening our cooperative relations and direct integration in the fields of production and science between economic and scientific-technical organizations of our country and corresponding organizations of the Soviet Union.

In agriculture and the food industry, we are continuing to more successfully implement the cooperative programs signed in previous years, such as the programs in vegetables and fruit, rubber, coffee and so forth and are expanding this cooperation to the planting and processing of a number of other food crops.

As regards vegetables and fruit, during the period from 1986 to 1990, we will continue to build essential projects in accordance with the agreement that was signed on 20 January 1985 so that they can be put into use in 1989-1990. At the same time, we have adjusted the structure of the product line, which includes adjusting the volume of products produced to a level that we can endeavor to achieve in order to achieve the required value of vegetable and fruit exports to the Soviet Union between now and 1990. On the other hand, the structure and volume of imports from the Soviet Union under this program have also been readjusted to be consistent with our country's production conditions.

Through the adjustments mentioned above and together with the restructuring of the management mechanism and work methods, the cooperative program in vegetable and fruit production will yield increasing returns and reach a new level of development.

As regards coconut oil and tea, on the basis of reviewing the implementation of the agreement and the protocol signed on 28 January 1986, two new agreements in this field were signed on 19 May 1987. In these agreements,

the two countries agreed to take steps, through their corresponding organizations and on the basis of reciprocal trade during the years from 1987 to 1990, to carry out an expansion of their cooperation in the production of tea by means of intensive cultivation, to harvest the 20,000 hectares now under cultivation, cultivate at least 10,000 hectares, rebuild and expand the tea processing plants and infrastructure projects related to production and harvest and process the tea growing on these 10,000 hectares. The two countries also signed a joint agreement on cooperation in the production of coconut oil and other coconut products for supply to the Soviet Union. On 5 August 1987, in order to implement this agreement, a contract was signed by the two parties in which the Soviet Union agreed to supply to Vietnam machinery, equipment and materials in return for coconut oil.

As regards coffee, in order to plant 20,000 hectares of coffee in Dac Lac as agreed to in the agreements signed on 24 July 1981 and 23 January 1986, two federated enterprises have been established, Vietnam-Soviet Federated Enterprise Number 1 and Vietnam-Soviet Federated Enterprise Number 2. To date, Vietnam-Soviet Federated Enterprise Number 1 has planted 6,800 hectares, of which 4,100 hectares are producing coffee. Vietnam-Soviet Federated Enterprise Number 2 has planted 1,000 hectares. Together with continuing to fulfill these commitments, a new agreement was signed on 3 August 1987 on expanding the cooperation in the planting and processing of coffee in our country for supply to the Soviet Union by intensively cultivating 30,000 hectares and planting 20,000 hectares of new coffee by 1990.

As regards the planting and processing of other food crops, the authorized agencies of the two countries have researched and organized cooperation in the planting of 30,000 hectares of soybeans in An Giang Province and the planting and processing of 10,000 hectares of palm trees, 5,000 hectares of castor oil plants, 30,000 hectares of cocoa and 2,000 hectares of pepper. In addition, by 1990, we will begin to cooperate in the field of seaweed cultivation and the production of agar.

In light industry, with a view toward better satisfying the needs of the peoples of the two countries for light industrial goods, providing more jobs to our people and helping to resolve the socio-economic problems of our country, the two countries pledged to expand and strengthen their cooperation during the years from 1987 and 1990 and up until the year 2000 in the light industrial sectors by taking the following steps: looking for ways to increase the production of finished and semi-finished light industrial goods for supply to the Soviet Union by processing raw materials of the Soviet Union in existing enterprises and new enterprises that will be equipped, expanded, retooled, modernized or built with the technical assistance of the Soviet Union; initiating cooperation in production and establishing joint enterprises within our country to produce light industrial goods; establishing direct relations between

the light industrial enterprises of Vietnam and the Soviet Union; developing scientific-technical cooperation with the aim of expanding product lines and improving the quality of industrial goods; and searching for new forms of cooperation.

To implement the above mentioned guidelines we have urgently taken many organizational measures in many specific fields. Included among these is a decision issued by the Council of Ministers on having a number of federations of enterprises sign contracts with the Soviet Union in accordance with the Vietnam-Soviet economic cooperation agreements signed on 19 May 1987.

On the basis of this decision, the state has permitted federations of enterprises, such as the Federation of Tea Enterprises, the Federation of Vegetable Oil Enterprises (under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry), the Federation of Sewing Enterprises, the Federation of Textile Enterprises and the Federation of Leather and Shoe Enterprises (under the Ministry of Light Industry) to sign contracts with the Soviet side in accordance with the corresponding cooperative agreements signed between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

The above mentioned federations of enterprises are in charge of implementing the corresponding agreements with the Soviet Union and serve as centers trading with organizations on the Soviet side and centers organizing implementing within our country. They operate on the basis of economic accounting, assume all losses incurred, retain all profits and fund their own operations. They are responsible for properly utilizing the supplies, fuel, equipment, raw materials and goods supplied by the Soviet Union in accordance with agreements and not including them in the materials of the state. They have been assigned the task of conducting both export and import activities and may sign contracts to import supplies, raw materials, equipment and goods from the Soviet Union and export cooperative products to the Soviet Union in accordance with the commitments stipulated in agreements. They may borrow capital from domestic and foreign banks to conduct production and business and fulfill the commitments made in agreements. They must fulfill obligations to the state.

To fulfill the commitments set forth in the agreements, the above mentioned federations of enterprises sign contracts and establish economic relations with basic production and business units of the central level and localities and other segments of the economy on the basis of the principles of democracy, voluntary association and fairness from the standpoint of economic interests.

Together with the above, the Soviet side has also sent many groups of cadres and specialists to our country to research, discuss and sign specific contracts to fulfill the commitments between the two countries.

The fulfillment of the commitments mentioned above is of special importance in export activities under the conditions of our country today. To create many sources of goods for exportation, we must, in addition to practicing self-reliance and utilizing our existing ability to produce export goods, also acquire capital, materials and technology from foreign countries so that we can develop the strengths of the economy as well as possible through various forms of economic and scientific-technical cooperation. Therefore, accelerating our exports and expanding our international cooperation are closely interrelated and stimulate one another's development. Only by accelerating our exports can we improve the foreign trade balance and the balance of international payments. Only on this basis can we strengthen and expand our economic cooperation with foreign countries. On the other hand, strengthening our international cooperation in the economic and scientific-technical fields, particularly in the forms of cooperating in production and the specialization of production within agriculture and industry, will strongly stimulate the growth of sources of export goods and the emergence of important export goods produced in large volumes, goods that are of high quality, have low production costs and are attractive on the world market.

The expansion of cooperation in production and the establishment of direct relations between the federations of enterprises of our country and similar organizations of the Soviet Union have been and are being carried out in agriculture and light industry, thereby opening new prospects for exports from our country to the Soviet Union.

In recent years, particularly since 1976, exports from our country to the Soviet Union have risen at a more rapid rate than our entire country's exports. However, exports remain low compared to the need to accelerate our exports to the Soviet Union. Exports increased by the average annual rate of 19.3 percent during the period from 1976 to 1980, 13.4 percent between 1981 and 1985 and are projected to increase by 13.1 percent between 1986 and 1990. While exports have increased at a slow rate, imports from the Soviet Union have risen at a high rate. Consequently, the difference between exports and imports between our country and the Soviet Union has steadily increased. There are many reasons for this situation. One very important reason is that our exports and imports are not closely tied to each other in order to develop our exports and expand our imports. We have failed to use an appropriate percentage of imports to invest in the development of the production of export goods. Meanwhile, the use of imports, based as it is on the mechanism characterized by bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies, yields low returns, is wasteful and does not exert a full impact upon the production of export goods. Therefore, expanding the various forms of cooperation in production and creating direct relations between our federations of enterprises and similar organizations of the Soviet Union create the conditions for closely tying exports to imports, closely tying interests to

responsibility and will help us to overcome the difficulties caused by our backward agricultural economy, which is still marked by many serious imbalances.

Between now and 1990, on the basis of the results of coordinating national economic plans and the commercial agreements signed between the two countries for the period from 1986 to 1990, our exports to the Soviet Union will more than double compared to the period from 1981 to 1985. The structure of exports will change. Unprocessed and processed agricultural and forestry products will increase from 24.9 percent during the years from 1981 to 1985 to 33.7 percent. Minerals will increase from 2.1 to 20.4 percent. Light industrial goods and small industry and handicraft goods will decline from 72 to 45.9 percent. New products will be added to the list of export goods, such as crude oil, coconut oil, soybean oil, frozen meat, shoe uppers and so forth. The primary products exported in large volumes to the Soviet Union will increase greatly compared to 1981-1985. These include crude oil, tin, rubber, coffee, tea, whole peanuts, soybeans, coconut oil, textiles, rush products, rattan and bamboo products and fresh and processed vegetables and fruit.

The changes occurring in our exports to the Soviet Union today and in the years ahead in terms of the quantity and structure of products and the mode of trade were determined in large measure by the successful implementation of the programs for cooperation in production and contract production that were agreed upon following the meeting between Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of our party, and Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU.

Successfully carrying out the cooperative programs to which we have committed ourselves and increasing our exports in order to import much more from the Soviet Union are the common responsibility of all sectors and levels and require smooth, close coordination among the concerned sectors. Here, coordination between the foreign trade sector and the various production sectors and localities is of special importance. We must revamp the export-import mechanism and policies, adopt a new way of working and re-examine and calculate the socio-economic returns from each product in order to implement these cooperative programs with good results. In everything from production to exports, from relations with foreign countries to coordination among domestic production and business organizations, guidance and management must take a new direction to insure the fulfillment of our commitments to the Soviet Union and constantly improve the standard of living of the worker and quickly increase our exports so that we can import goods to support socio-economic goals.

The overseas economic activities, in general, and the foreign trade activities, in particular, of the Soviet Union are being strongly restructured and changed. This makes it even more necessary for us to adopt a new way of thinking and a new way of working which yield practical

returns in our economic cooperative relations and commercial trade in order to meet the expectations of the parties, governments and peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

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Soviet Role in Coffee Production Increasing
42090141a Hanoi NGOAI THUONG in Vietnamese
Oct 87, pp 12-14

[Article by Mai Chi: "Vietnam-Soviet Cooperation in Coffee Production: Results and Prospects"]

[Text] The natural, climatic and land conditions of our country permit us to develop coffee production over a rather large area, with about 200,000 hectares in production each year producing more than 150,000 tons of coffee, which generate export revenues in excess of 300 million rubles. In recent years, our party and state have created every possible condition for developing this potential. We have begun to develop the Central Highlands into the largest and most important coffee growing region of the country. With the demand for coffee on the international market (mainly CEMA) steadily rising, coffee is assuming an increasingly important position within our country's economy. The area under the cultivation of coffee has continuously increased: 1981: 20,000 hectares; 1985: 45,000 hectares; and late 1986: 66,000 hectares of coffee nationwide.

The development of the coffee production sector has been marked by the role played by the Federation of Vietnam Coffee Enterprises (which was established in accordance with Council of Ministers' Decision Number 174 dated 13 October 1982). The federation has the task of cooperating in the economic and technical fields with other countries, most importantly the socialist countries, for the purpose of developing coffee production. Under cooperative agreements between our country and the socialist countries of the Soviet Union, the GDR, Czechoslovakia and Poland, 55,000 hectares of coffee will be planted in the Central Highlands and Phu Khanh between 1980 and 1990.

The agreement on cooperation in coffee production with the Soviet Union is being implemented by the Vietnam-Soviet Federated Coffee Enterprise (of the Federation of Vietnam Coffee Enterprises) and the Dac Lac Federation of Coffee Enterprises (Dac Lac Province). Within the framework of the agreements signed for the 10 year period from 1983 to 1993, 20,000 hectares need to be planted. To date, this important cooperative program has been under way for 5 years. The Vietnam-Soviet Federated Coffee Enterprise and the Dac Lac Federation of Coffee Enterprises have planted 7,500 hectares. Under this cooperative program, the Soviets are investing initial capital at the rate of 2,000 rubles per hectare. This money is being apportioned as follows: one-third for the importation of special purpose machinery and equipment, one-half for materials and the remainder for

supporting the everyday needs of workers, mainly for the construction of medical aid stations, the purchase of implements and medicine and for labor safety. Economic integration with the socialist countries takes many different forms, such as borrowing capital, organizing joint enterprises, etc. In our cooperation with the Soviet Union, we are borrowing long-term capital and repaying in product. Loans from the Soviet Union are in the form of materials and equipment supplied on the basis of orders negotiated by the two parties as described above. Through integration with the Soviets, the coffee sector has acquired extremely important materials and equipment for use in production. Thousands of tons of fertilizer and pesticides, thousands of tons of fuel and many types of machinery and equipment have been sent to Vietnam and are being effectively utilized. We have been strictly observing the stipulation that materials and equipment invested in coffee production not be used for other crops. In addition to utilizing the investment capital provided by the Soviets, we have invested nearly 300,000 additional dong per hectare. With this large amount of selectively invested capital, the Vietnam-Soviet coffee cooperation program has focused on resolving the two important problems of technical management and economic management, that is, on insuring that new coffee is planted and that existing coffee plants are cared for properly. Having gained experience from many years of non-intensive coffee production, of trying to plant as much as possible and ultimately having to write off coffee plantings that were still in the capital construction stage, the Vietnam-Soviet Federated Coffee Enterprise has been focusing its efforts on resolving technical problems. The enterprise has held training classes in the techniques of making seedling nurseries, designing coffee plantings and planting new coffee. At the same time, it has been training the workers at state farms in the techniques of planting new coffee. Together with planting new coffee, the federated enterprise has constructed numerous water conservancy projects to provide irrigation water for coffee, expanded the road network to facilitate the transportation of materials for use in production, constructed public welfare projects, etc. The techniques of cultivating coffee are being implemented well. In the Central Highlands, because the harsh dry season lasts for 4 to 5 months, the Vietnam-Soviet Federated Coffee Enterprise has instructed the various state farms in the methods of retaining moisture and combating drought, such as shoring up soil around the base of plants and loosening the soil, and in how to plant shelter belt forests and trees to provide shade for coffee plants during the initial stage of their growth. All these measures are aimed at overcoming the difficulties caused by the lack of irrigation systems, difficulties which the Vietnam-Soviet Federated Coffee Enterprise and a number of other units are encountering. As a result, coffee plantings are growing well, are growing uniformly and at the rate stipulated in the agreement.

The realities of the more than 4 years of the coffee cooperation program with the Soviet Union show the strength of international cooperation. The Soviets have

resolved many difficulties for us. In particular, they have supplied materials and equipment needed for production, materials and equipment which we are unable to produce. With this equipment and these materials, we have acquired a strong material-technical base, one which insures that we can make appropriate investments in a key project, increase the rate of capital construction and stabilize a complete process of coffee production. Soviet specialists have remained at basic units, closely observed the rate at which the agreement is being implemented, promptly resolved difficulties with equipment and handled technical problems. With this international cooperation, we can, in only a short amount of time, complete both jobs of accelerating the planting of new coffee on a broad scope and initiating intensive cultivation. We can combine our labor with the investment capital of the Soviets to develop the potentials that lie in our land and climate and achieve high economic returns. Localities are also actively participating in this cooperative program. The Dac Lac Federation of Coffee Enterprises has written the economic argumentation for 15 state farms of the province, received investment capital from the Soviet Union and is endeavoring to put 10,000 hectares of cooperative coffee under cultivation. Thus, the international cooperation is not only limited to the basic units of the central level, but has been expanded to include the localities as well.

On the basis of the investment capabilities of the state and the cooperative program with foreign countries as well as the capabilities of localities, we can raise the amount of area under cultivation to 100,000 hectares and produce a total output of more than 40,000 tons of whole coffee beans by 1990. Of this amount, some 35,000 hectares will be planted in the Central Highlands and Phu Khanh under cooperative agreements with fraternal countries.

The cooperative program with the Soviet Union is opening very large prospects. The provinces of Lam Dong, Nghia Binh, Dong Nai and so forth are preparing all the conditions needed to sign cooperative agreements with the Soviet Union. In addition to the agreements signed in round one which are being successfully implemented and in accordance with an agreement reached by the two sides, our country will expand the cultivation of coffee grown in cooperation with the Soviet Union to 60,000 hectares (30 percent of the total amount of area planned for the cultivation of coffee nationwide) between 1987 and the year 2000 and invest in the intensive cultivation of existing coffee fields in order to continuously raise coffee yields and output and provide additional products to our friends.

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SOCIAL

Medical Officials Concerned Over Threat To End Swedish Aid

36500093 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish
10 Apr 88 p 8

[Article by Kaa Eneberg: "Better Health in Vietnam.
'Swedish' Hospital, Model"]

[Text] In the big foreign aid debate in parliament on 27 April, the non-socialist parties are once again expected to demand discontinuation of the aid to Vietnam. The government also intends to discontinue its aid if Vietnam fails to comply with its promise to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea.

"It is the dream of everybody here to get into Sweden," jokes Dr Nguyen Ngoc Ham, chief of the Swedish-built hospital that is located in the northeastern coal-mining town of Uong Bi and is called "Sweden" by the Vietnamese population.

However, neither the Vietnamese nor the Swedish advisers have the least intention of admitting all sick people to the fine hospital, which is beautifully situated on a hill overlooking the industrial community, which is shrouded in coal dust and usually in mist as well.

There certainly are enough patients in the local community, where 19,000 people work in the mines, and in the entire province, where 10 percent of the population of 760,000 people are employed in the hard mining work. Children below the age of 15 account for as much as 42 percent of the population. Diarrhea occurs frequently, and the same thing holds true of bronchitis, dysentery, malaria, and tropical dengue fever, which takes many lives. All of it resulting from dirty water, the damp air mixed with coal dust, and unhealthy work and housing conditions, which, in turn, are the result of poverty.

As has been the case with other Swedish aid projects throughout the world, the idea is instead to make it possible for as many people as possible to benefit from the expertise at the hospital. This is accomplished via the preventive health care program and the methods development organized by the hospital.

When the hospital, which is quite unique for Vietnam, was inaugurated by Minister of Social Affairs Karin Soder in 1980, the idea was that the Swedes had built a model for future provincial hospitals in the country.

Since the withdrawal of the French in 1954, socialist Vietnam had developed a health care system that was quite unique for a developing country and had big plans for the future. In 1982 the country had upwards of 2,000 hospitals and 10,000 health care centers with more than

200,000 beds. As a result of effective vaccination campaigns during the war years, previously widespread diseases among the population, such as tuberculosis, smallpox, and even malaria, had largely been eradicated.

However, many ambitious plans were shelved concurrently with the stagnation of the economy and the increase in the population, the annual growth rate of which is approximately 1.5 million people.

Change of Course

The course of the "Sweden" project slowly and steadily changed, as did the entire health care aid to Vietnam, which, in the early seventies, cost 575 million kronor, i.e., less than one-tenth of the entire aid to Vietnam—well over 5 billion kronor. Current health care agreements are being carried through via the consulting firm of Indevelop, with Uppsala University as a participant, at a cost of 50 million kronor annually, and the agreements will run through June 1989. The program also includes a children's hospital in Hanoi, which is now called the Olof Palme Institute for Child Care.

Eight years after its inauguration, the hospital is not merely a hospital with 400 beds and clinics and facilities for the treatment of 8,000 patients. It has become the central hospital in the sophisticated network of health care centers and clinics throughout the entire province. The further training of physicians, nurses, and other personnel has transformed it into a university for all of North Vietnam.

Discontinuation of Aid, Cause for Concern

Stately Ham, hardened by difficult war years in primitive field conditions, talks in warm terms and with gratitude about the "Sweden" hospital. He does not seem to pay too much attention to errors in "architecture and other things."

"As you know, we have found a Vietnamese and realistic level for the operation of the hospital," he says, adding that the idea that the Swedish aid may be discontinued is the cause of much concern. Many essential health care programs would have to be abandoned, since Vietnam also in the future will need aid in the areas of equipment, medicine, and training. Of the national budget, 10 percent has been allocated to health care, but that does not go far. Foreign currency, which the country lacks, is needed for purchases abroad.

Among the architectural errors is the large Swedish central kitchen, which remains vacant, since food preparation seldom occurs in Vietnamese hospitals. The less expensive and simple fare, mostly rice, is provided and purchased in portable street kitchens in the small market that has emerged outside the gates of the hospital.

Strange Bells

The barely audible electric Swedish bells make a rather strange impression in the quiet corridors.

The errors should, for the Swedish part, be ascribed to inexperience and, for the Vietnamese part, to wishful thinking and inflated ideas with regard to the country's development potential after the end of the war, when many countries wanted to assist the brave small country. Little did they, in the planning of the hospital, suspect the breach in the relations with the Chinese, who had participated in the development of the health care network and who had trained many Vietnamese physicians.

Dr. Ham's "Vietnamese solution," which is supported wholeheartedly by Sweden, involves, among other things, increased preventive maternal and health care, family planning, dissemination of general health care information, and a higher rate of direct responsibility on the part of nursing staffs.

However, it also involves adjustment to the harsh reality of the working conditions. As a result of the shortage of medicine, the so-called traditional medicine is, to a large extent, being used in the treatment of the patients. Various locally grown medicinal herbs are among the medications stored in pretty compartments in the pharmacy of the hospital. A Swedish-made pill machine ejects brown pills containing a vegetable extract.

Dr. Doanh, chief of the intensive-care unit, proudly shows a bottle containing a dark liquid made from a vegetable extract. It is being used for its healing effect on surgical incisions and burns. The open fires and red-hot pans generally used in Vietnamese homes are the cause of the large number of children and adults suffering from burns that are treated in the hospital.

Dr. Doanh shows a small girl who has had her abdomen crushed by a car. Automobile accidents are a new and growing phenomenon in this country with its large number of bicycles and poor roads, which often serve as playgrounds for children.

The Swedish experts are interested in the Vietnamese use of traditional medicine. Dr. Magnus Grabe, a Swedish physician, says that they are seeking to find the active ingredient in Dr. Doanh's medication. However, the Swedes, including Svante Prag, the pharmacist, have adopted a wait and see attitude. Clearly astonished, all of them—Grabe, Prag, and Dr. Leif Persson—examine the pretty wooden boards in the local health clinics with prescriptions for healing herbs.

Words of Praise

The Swedish health care program incorporates support from the foreign research organization Sarec in the form of methods development in the domestic pharmaceutical

industry, among other things, in the state-owned pharmaceutical firms in Hanoi. To achieve a better use of the medications, the Swedes have also participated in the development of manuals.

The cooperation and teamwork are repeatedly praised during the presentation of the hospital and the local clinics. Sida, the Swedish aid organization, moreover, points out that the Swedish experts experience no major problems, since they work within the framework of, and in cooperation with, the Vietnamese.

The cooperation also appears to work well in the efforts to convince the population that they ought to boil their water and keep their families small, as well as in the efforts to persuade the government that health care is not merely a question of building hospitals. An example of the cooperation is demonstrated at a luncheon in the mining town of Cam Pha with a recently built hospital, for the operation of which they seek Swedish assistance.

Fresh Water

"The new fresh-water pipe to the town probably represents the largest contribution in the efforts to raise the health standard. Why not also improve the work environment in the mines as well," says Magnus Grabe in the course of a rather unusual speech of thanks to an assembly of health officials in the town of 50,000 inhabitants in the vast coal mining area. Most of the inhabitants are employed in the large-scale open-cast mining, which has a devastating effect on the environment.

Dr. Ham looks pleased, hoping that the warning on the part of the Swede will make an impression on the politicians.

We Cannot Continue Without Assistance

To a Swede, much in the fine Swedish hospital may appear poor. The inadequate equipment, the empty shelves, the silence. However, to veteran physician Doanh this is pure heaven, being able to work in cooperation with Swedish experts and with Swedish aid.

"It would be very difficult for us to continue the hospital care and health care program we started," says Doanh, a physician with several decades of experience as a physician working under the worst possible conditions.

Dr. Doanh, 53, deputy superintendent of Uoung Bi Hospital, worked during the war years when the United States systematically bombed the old hospital of the coal mining town not far from the port of Haiphong, one of the major targets in the American bombardments.

"Here, the B-52's dropped their bombs on the hospital. Everybody helped rescue the patients and hide them."

Dr. Doanh says that most of them were taken to a secret cave, which held hundreds of people. In the cave, they performed operations and other procedures to the best of their ability.

Dr. Doanh, raised and educated in the capital of Hanoi, was well trained for his tasks during the war years. He acquired his experience in the course of a decade, working as a physician at the remote Tien Yen Hospital in the same province, 140 km from the Chinese border, where he worked with his wife, a physician trained in China. Today she performs acupuncture in Young Bi.

During his studies, he had to travel the distance of 300 km, largely by foot, to a hospital that "had nothing but patients."

Rat Tails

Today he is able to report with a sad laughter on how, for lack of other materials, they had to sew up wounds with rat tails—for there were enough rats—and how they succeeded in getting an automobile to the location in order to carry out dangerous operations with the aid of the light from the searchlights.

Operations are still taking place at the risk of the health of both patients and their physicians at this remote hospital, to which Dr. Doanh and Dr. Ham, superintendent, last March persuaded the Swedish advisers to undertake their difficult trip. The visit was the first contact that the hospital had had with Europeans in 30 years.

From a joint report, the contents of which DAGENS NYHETER has studied, it appears that the hospital, which serves an area comprising 30,000 people and which has a heavy work load—100 operations and 25,000 visits to its clinics annually—still lacks running water and, at least as far as operations and x-ray examinations are concerned, has an inadequate power supply system with lines which are not earthed and which are directly dangerous.

7262/08309

BIOGRAPHIC

Biographic Information on Vietnamese Personalities

[The following information on Vietnamese personalities has been extracted from Vietnamese-language sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated. Asterisked job title indicates that this is the first known press reference to this individual functioning in this capacity.]

[Text] Bui Cong Ai [Buif Coong Ais], Major General

His article on Huong Giang Corps responding to the campaign "Things That Must Be Done Immediately" appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 20 Nov 87 pp 1, 4)

Le Bang [Lee Bawngf], Colonel

His article "Soviet Military Science and Marxist-Leninist Miliary Science in Vietnam" appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Nov 87 pp 33-41)

Dong Van Cong [Doongf Vawn Coongs], *Lieutenant General

Under the decision by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers in 24 Oct 86, he was appointed member of a team to investigate the 622nd Regiment for its reported economic crimes. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 27 Nov 87 p 3)

Tran Quang Co [TRAANF QUANG COW]

*SRV Deputy Foreign Minister; on 13 Feb 88 he met with the Thai Ambassador to Vietnam in Hanoi. (NHAN DAN 24 Feb 88 p 1)

Ha Quang Du [Haf Quang Zuwj]

*1st Secretary of the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union; recently he was interviewed by the daily NHAN DAN on the Communist Youth Union. (NHAN DAN 25 Mar 88 p 3)

Nguyen Van Dam [Nguyenx Vawn Damj]

Deputy Director of the Vietnam State Bank; his article on government bonds appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 7 Dec 87 p 2)

Ngo Dien [Ngoor Dieenf]

SRV Ambassador to Kampuchea; on 29 Nov 87 he was present at a farewell ceremony in Phnom Penh for SRV troops returning to Vietnam. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 30 Nov 87 p 1)

Ha Hanh [Haf Hanhj]

Vice President of the State Bank, Ho Chi Minh City; recently he was interviewed by SAIGON GIAI PHONG daily. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 29 Nov 87 p 1)

Tran Quoc Huong [Traanf Quoocs Huowong]

Secretary of the CPV Central Committee; *Director of the Internal Affairs Department of the CPV Central Committee; on 20-21 Nov 87 he attended the national lawyers congress in Hanoi. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 Nov 87 p 1)

Tan Do Ket [Taans Doox Keets], *Colonel

*Director of the basic pilot school of the SRV Air Force; his name and position were mentioned in an article about his school, published in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 25 Mar 88 p 3)

Vu Khoan [Vux Khoan]

*Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs; on 13 Feb 88 he attended a reception held by the DPRK Ambassador in Hanoi. (NHAN DAN 19 Feb 88 p 4)

Nguyen The Lam [Nguyeenn Thees Laam], Major General

His article on a veteran's association was published in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Nov 87 p 3)

Dao Huu Lieu [Daof Huwux Lieve], Major General*

Under a decision by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers in 24 Oct 86, he was appointed a member of a team to investigate 622 Regiment for its reported economic crimes. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 27 Nov 87 p 3)

Nong Minh Ly [Noong Minh Lys], deceased

Former political leader of the military command, Cao Bang Province; former vice chairman of the People's Committee, Cao Bang Province; he died on 3 Dec 87 at the age of 67. (NHAN DAN 7 Dec 87 p 4)

Cao Pha [Cao Pha], Major General

Deputy Director of the Military History Institute; on 23 Jan 88 he attended a conference on the "1968 Tet Offensive" in Hanoi. (HANOI MOI 26 Jan 88 p 1)

Huynh Tan Phat [Huynhf Taans Phats]

Vice Chairman of the Council of State; President of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front; on 20-21 Nov 1987 he attended the National Congress of Lawyers in Hanoi. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 Nov 87 p 1)

Le Van Phu [Lee Vawn Phu], Colonel

Director of the Commanding Officers Technical School; he wrote a letter to respond to a recent readers column in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 Nov 87 p 2)

Tran Phuc [Traanf Phucs], Colonel

*SRV Military Attaché in Kampuchea; on 29 Nov 87 he was present at a farewell ceremony in Phnom Penh for SRV troops returning to Vietnam. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 30 Nov 87 p 1)

Hoang Bich Son [Hoangf Bichs Sown]

Director of the Overseas Vietnamese Department of the CPV Central Committee; on 11 Feb 88 he welcomed a group of overseas Vietnamese visiting Hanoi on the occasion of the new Lunar Year. (HANOI MOI 13 Feb 88 p 1)

Bui Van Tam [Buif Vawn Taamr]

*Acting Chairman of the People's Committee, Kien Giang Province; on 1 Dec 87 he attended a ceremony to welcome SRV troops returning to Vietnam from Kampuchea. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 3 Dec 87 p 1)

Hoang Huu Thai [Hoangf Huwux Thais], Rear Admiral

Deputy Commander of the Navy; on 24 Nov 87 he welcomed a Soviet Navy fleet visit to Hai Phong. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 25 Nov 87 p 1)

Ngo Duc Tho [Ngoo Duwcs Thoj], Colonel

*Technical Deputy Commander of the Signal and Liaison Branch; his name was mentioned in an article about his branch, published in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Dec 87 p 3)

Vo Van Trac [Vox Vawn Tracs]

Vice Minister of Marine Products; his article "Developments in Breeding Shrimp and Growing Special Products for Export—the Strategic Duty of the Sea Product Brand" was published in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Jan 88 pp 12-14)

Tran Trung [Traanf Trung]

*SRV Ambassador in Mongolia; on 8 Oct 87 he attended a conference in Ulan Bator on Vietnam-Mongolia cooperation in economics, science and technology. (NHAN DAN 13 Oct 87 p 1)

Luong Manh Tuan [Luowowng Manhj Tuaans]

*SRV Charge d'Affairs in Japan; on 22 Nov 87 he welcomed a Vietnamese delegation visiting Japan. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 Nov 87 p 1)

Vo Anh Tuan [Vox Anh Tuaans]

*SRV Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Zambia; on 13 Jan 88 he presented his credentials to the President of Zambia. (NHAN DAN 19 Jan 88 p 4)

Nguyen Thanh Tung [Nguyeenn Thanh Tungf], *Major General

Commander of the 99th military corps; recently he and his troops were welcomed in Ha Tien, Kien Giang Province after completing their international duty in Kampuchea. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 2 Dec 87 p 1)

*First Chairman of the People's Committee, Hai Phong; on 24 Nov 87 he greeted a Soviet Navy fleet visit to Hai Phong. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 25 Nov 87 p 1)

Cao Van [Cao Vawn]

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